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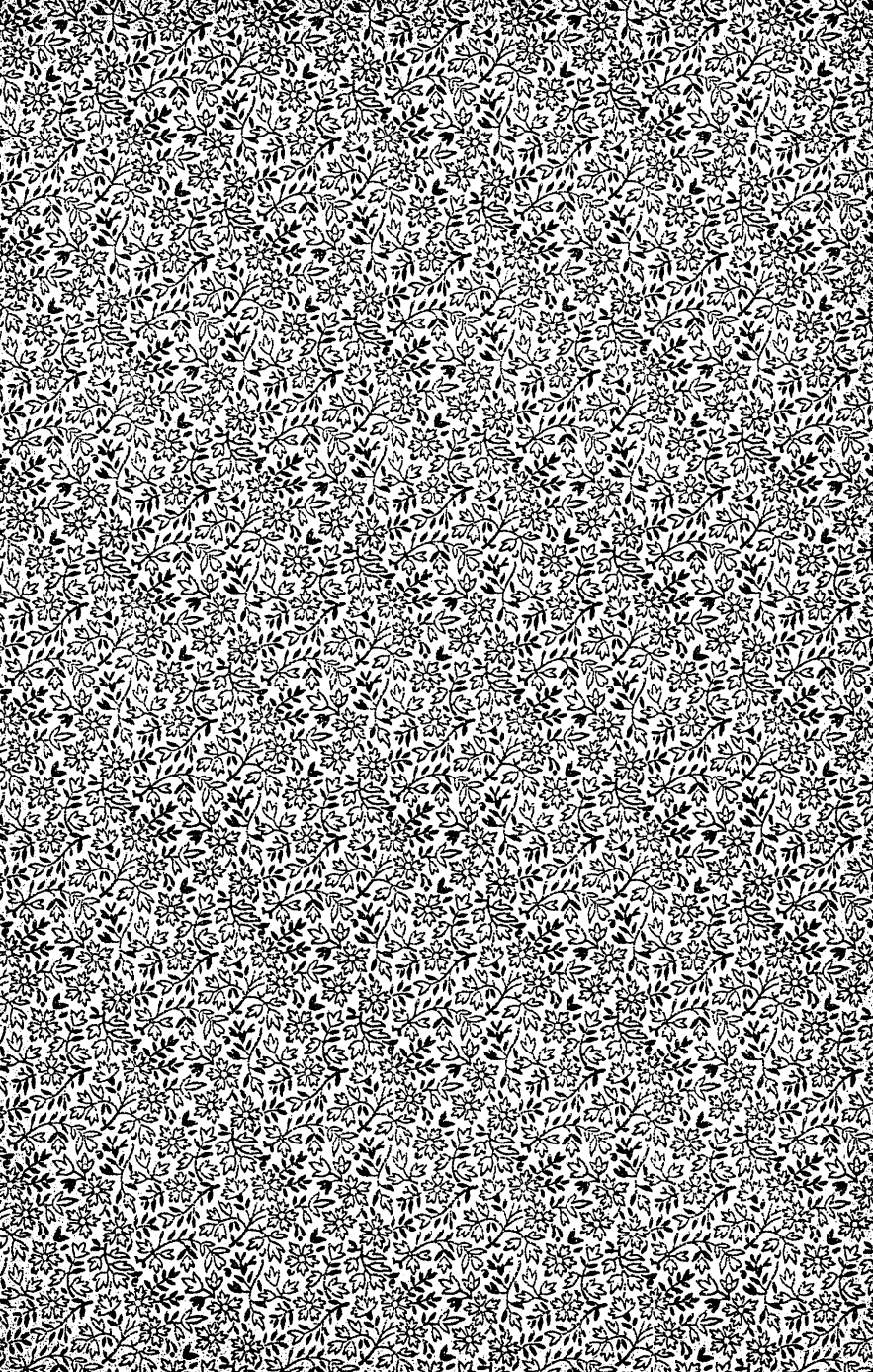
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# REVELATION

*being,*

A PARAPHRASE AND EXPOSITION

IN VERSE

By REV. T. P. BRIGGS

Author of "THE SONG OF SONGS: A PARAPHRASE IN VERSE  
OF SOLOMON'S SONG," ETC.

INTRODUCTION

By E. BENJ. ANDREWS, D.D., LL.D.

PRESIDENT OF BROWN UNIVERSITY.

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*"Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words  
of this prophecy and keep those things which are written therein,  
for the time is at hand." Rev. 1:3.*

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BOSTON

JAMES H. EARLE, PUBLISHER

178 WASHINGTON STREET

1892

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## PREFACE.

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WHEN the Holy Spirit declares, "Blessed is he that readeth and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein, for the time is at hand," it surely needs no apology for an honest and prayerful attempt to understand and explain these predictions, especially when the greater part of them are already a matter of history and only a small portion remain to be fulfilled. When Mr. Barnes, in the course of his exposition of the New Testament, came to Revelation he thought he would only explain the more practical portions of the book and leave the prophetical parts for others to expound. But when he read again in connection with this wonderful book the "Decline and fall of the Roman Empire" by Gibbon, and found that this writer, infidel though he was, could not have given a more complete history of the fulfillment of the earlier portions of the prophecy if he had endeavored to prove them true, Mr. Barnes was compelled to interpret these predictions according to the plain truths of history and has thereby given us one of the most thorough and reliable expositions of this book which has ever been written.

While one of the chief purposes of prophecy is to confirm the faith of believers after its fulfillment, yet as we come near to any important epoch in the history of the Church we are to expect increased aid from heaven in understanding the "signs of the times", and so like Daniel who, by prophecy



learned that the bondage in Babylon was about to end, and accordingly gave himself to prayer for the welfare of Zion in that triumphant and yet crucial hour; and as the early disciples were prepared by the predictions which fell from the lips of Christ to anticipate and thus save their lives at the destruction of Jerusalem; so we, by a prayerful and faithful study of prophecy in its relation to Romanism and other anti-Christian powers, shall be better prepared for what is before us in the near future.

I cheerfully acknowledge the aid received from many Commentators and writers on prophecy in the preparation of this book; but I desire to mention the names of some writers, as especially helpful in my work, such as Sir Isaac Newton, one of earth's greatest philosophers, in his grand work on prophecy; and also the works on the same subject by Bishop Thos. Newton, Faber, Scott, Pres. Edwards' "History of Redemption," Andrew Fuller's lectures on the Apocalypse, "Smith's Key to Revelation," and, as before stated, Albert Barnes' notes on Revelation, also Bengel, Elliot, Lange and Hovey.

In such company one will not be likely to get fanciful or mistaken ideas concerning the general truths of prophecy. But while consulting many authors and comparing one with another, I have reserved the right of personal judgment and interpretation by giving what, on the whole, I have believed to be the "mind of the Spirit."

And on all who study these interesting and profitable predictions of the Bible may the benediction of heaven rest, as promised at the beginning of the Book of Revelation.

T. P. B.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

## INTRODUCTION.

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BY PRESIDENT E. BENJ. ANDREWS.

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SIR ISAAC NEWTON advanced as one important reason why he wrote on prophecy the belief that, even in his day, men were nearing great moral and political changes;—with increased propriety may this be urged as a motive for works of this character at present. It is commonly believed that we are coming into one of the most vital and interesting epochs of prophetic history when truth is to prevail over error and superstition as it was done in no earlier age. A book which can throw aught of true light on the dark cloud of the near future, so as at all to reveal the issue of the battles now going on between the forces of light and the forces of darkness must be timely and helpful.

Ever since the first century pious writers have been offering to the world their interpretations of the unique book of Revelation, some of them varying widely from others as to its meaning: Because of said differing views not a few intelligent and honest men are prejudiced against any attempt to expound its mysterious symbolism. In reply to such extreme caution LANGE has well said, "What though ten or twenty arbitrary and fanciful interpretations have attached themselves to an allegorical passage?—that circumstance does not in the least destroy its allegorical character; on the contrary it serves but to recommend in the most pressing manner, an inquiry after the symbolical analogies and the fundamental character of the prophecy."

Concerning the value of the Book, Sir Isaac Newton in his "OBSERVATIONS UPON THE APOCALYPSE OF ST. JOHN," after

referring to the testimony of the early Christian writers to its authority and credibility, remarks: "This may surely suffice to show how the Apocalypse was received and studied in the first ages; and I do not, indeed, find any other book of the New Testament so strongly attested, or commented on, so early as this."

Irenæus lived about A. D. 140-202. He was a contemporary and warm personal friend of Polycarp, who in turn, was, without reasonable doubt, acquainted with the Apostle John. Irenæus gives most unqualified testimony to the effect that John was the author of the Apocalypse. It is hardly credible that he would have done this had not Polycarp believed as he did. Biblical scholars are, of course, familiar with the statements on this subject left by such early writers as Justin Martyr, Melito, Theophilus, Tertullian and Clement of Alexandria and by writers of the third and fourth centuries. The fact that the great majority of the early writers regarded the Apocalypse as Authentic, that the Latin fathers and the main body of the Greek fathers, as well, always defended it, is sufficient external proof of its authenticity. But it is to the internal evidence that we look for the most conclusive proof of the Divine guidance which its author received in the composition of this wonderful book. The purity of its doctrines,—the sublimity of its language and imagery,—its fulness of the spirit of prophecy and above all the adoring love which its author everywhere breathes for our Lord Jesus Christ, unquestionably attest the validity of the Apocalypse as an original and trustworthy oracle of our holy religion.

Touching the Paraphrast's mode of interpretation and the views at which he arrives, the present writer is too ill-read in apocalyptic lore to express an opinion. Suffice it to say that in the primary and historical application of these prophecies, the Paraphrast is in general harmony with the great body of Commentators, especially with writers like Sir Isaac Newton, Bishop Newton, Faber, Scott, Bengel, Elliot Fuller, Lange and Barnes.

As the Apocalypse itself is really a poem, called "prophetic-poetry", by LANGE,—the author believes, that by giving his Paraphrase rhythm and metre it will better harmonize with the highly figurative language of the original, while also condensing the expository part of his work.

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# REVELATION.

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## CHAPTER I.

### THE PROLOGUE.

This chapter contains the prologue and preface to the whole Book of Revelation. It gives the title and explains the design of the book. It pronounces the benediction of heaven on all who read and obey its teachings. God's blessings of grace and peace are invoked on the Churches of Asia, to whom he directs this book to be sent. Then follows a beautiful description of these Churches under the figure of "golden candlesticks" and also of Christ and his divine attributes.

1. The revelation of our Lord,  
Which God the Father gave to Him,  
To show to all His watchful Saints  
The things which shortly must be done.

A Prophet who on earth had lived  
The high Commission had to bear  
This Message to God's servant, John :

2. Christ's loved disciple record bears  
To ev'ry word revealed to him,  
And witnessed truly by our Lord—  
Of all he heard or saw he writes :

3. The blessing of the Lord shall rest  
On all who read and ponder well,  
Translating into action grand,  
These words, which shortly must begin
4. To be fulfilled. To the churches  
Of our Lord in Asia, I, John,  
Invoke great grace and peace on you;  
From Him who was, and is, and is  
To come, and from the Holy Ghost,
5. The perfect God, and Jesus Christ,  
God's faithful witness to the truth,  
The first begotten from the dead,  
The King o'er all the Kings of earth:  
To him who washed us from our sins  
With His own blood, so freely shed,
6. Who makes us Kings and Priests to God,  
Be power and glory evermore!
7. Behold He cometh in the clouds  
Surrounded by th' Angelic host  
And every eye shall see our King;  
The men who crucified our Lord,  
Yea, all who have rejected Christ  
Shall wail because of Him! Amen!
8. "I, Alpha and Omega, reign,  
The First and last of all that is,  
Who was, who is, and is to come,  
Th' Almighty God o'er all the worlds!"
9. I, John, your fellow Saint in Christ,  
In trials and in patience long,  
Who for the Kingdom of our Lord

Am praying, waiting, hoping still,  
 For testimony to the truth  
 Was banished to lone Patmos' isle.  
 10. T'was on the Lord's own day of rest,  
 In God the Spirit, filled with peace,  
 A heavenly voice, like naught on earth,  
 In trumpet tones, burst on my ear;  
 These were the words which then I heard. —  
 11. "Both Alpha and Omega true  
 Am I, and what thou seest write  
 And send to all the saints of God,  
 Scattered abroad thro' Asia fair;  
 To Ephesus and Pergamos,  
 To Thyatira, Smyrna too  
 And loving Philadelphia;  
 To Sardis and rich La'doceæ,  
 That they may profit by these words."  
 12. I turned to see the one who spake,  
 When to my gaze this vision came:  
 Seven candlesticks of purest gold,  
 13. And in their midst a wond'rous one,  
 Like to my Lord, the Son of man:  
 He wore a long and flowing robe,  
 Of spotless righteousness and grace,  
 With golden girdle round His breast,  
 Girded with strength for service true  
 Toward all the churches of His care;  
 14. His hair was white as driven snow, —  
 The mighty God 'ere time began, —  
 His eyes like flaming, flashing fire

Proclaimed His knowledge infinite ;  
15. His feet glowed like fine, burnished brass,  
Like wheels of light which swiftly move,  
Thus showing his prompt power to act.  
His voice was loud as ocean's roar, —  
Denoting universal sway ;  
16. His strong right hand held seven stars, —  
The faithful pastors of His flock ;  
From out his mouth a two-edged sword  
Proceeded — His own faithful word :  
Like regal sun His clear face shone,  
With royal majesty and grace.  
17. I fell before His feet as dead,  
As smitten by a lightning's flash !  
His strong right hand on me He laid  
And with a wond'rous kindness spake  
And said to me "Fear not, fear not,  
18. I am the first and last, who died  
But live again for aye ! Amen !  
I hold the keys of death and hell :  
19. Write truly all that thou hast seen, —  
The things which are, and are to come,  
I now, in love, disclose to thee ;  
20. The meaning of what thou hast seen —  
The seven stars are messengers  
To Asia's Churches, formed by me :  
The candlesticks of purest gold  
Are these same churches of thy Lord."

## CHAPTER II.

### LETTERS TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES.

This and the following chapter contain the letters to the Seven Churches of Asia. These letters which exhibit such divine knowledge, love and fidelity have been and will be to the end of time, watch-words of comfort and warning to every living Church. No one but God could have so read the inner motives of his professed disciples and so directed and comforted the weakest of his children.

1. "Unto the Pastor of the Church  
In Ephesus thus truly write,"  
Saith He, the High and Holy One,  
Who holdeth these same Ministers  
In His own strong, yet gentle hand,  
And 'mongst the golden Candlesticks

2. Doth move:

"I know thy works and toil;  
I know thy patience fully tried,  
And how thou can'st not bear those men,  
Those evil men, who like fierce wolves  
Destroy and scatter my own flock,  
E'en those who falsely call themselves  
Apostles of the Lord, thou hast  
Exposed and promptly cast them out!

3. Thy patience and thy holy zeal



Are worthy of the highest praise ;  
Nor hast thou weary grown in all thy work.

4. Yet this have I against my church :  
Thou hast forsaken thy first love ;  
Thy early zeal and faith are dimmed.

5. Remember then that holy height  
From whence thou hast so sadly fallen ;  
Repent, and do thy former works,  
Or else the golden candlestick  
Shall be removed, and darkness reign,  
Except thou dost in truth repent.

6. But this thou hast which pleaseth me,  
Thou hatest all the shameful deeds  
Of those vile Nicolaitanes,  
Deeds which I, also, deeply hate.

7. Let him who hath attentive ear  
To hear these words, obey the truth ;  
To him who overcometh sin  
Fruit from the tree of life I'll give,  
Which grows in God's own Paradise.

8. And to the Pastor of the church  
In Smyrna write, these things saith He,  
The first and last, who died but lives

9. Again ; Thy works, and poverty,  
And tribulation deep, I know ;  
Yet thou art truly rich in me.

The blasphemy of those who say  
That they are Jews, in pretense fair,  
The Synagogue of Satan are !

10. Fear not, beloved Church, fear not

The things which thou must bear for me;  
Behold, the Wicked One will soon,  
With fiendish joy, thrust some of you  
In prison, that ye may be tried,  
And tribulation ye shall have —  
Your proof and test of living faith —

For ten successive bitter years;  
But be ye faithful unto death  
And ye shall wear the crown of life.

11. Let all who hear attend these words,  
To all the churches of our Lord :

He that o'ercomes the powers of hell  
The second death shall never hurt.

12. And to the Pastor of the Church  
In Pergamos thus truly write ;  
These things saith He who hath the sharp

13. Two-edged sword :

I know where thou dost dwell ;  
Where Satan proudly makes his throne,  
Thou holdest fast my glorious name.  
Thou never hast denied my faith,  
E'en in the days when Antipas,  
My faithful martyr, gave his life  
Among you, e'en where Satan dwells.

14. And yet a few faults I have found  
In thee ; for thou hast those who hold  
The doctrines, taught in days long past  
By Balaam, Bosor's evil son,  
Who Balak taught, by artful ways,  
To cast a stumbling-block before

The Israelites, alluring them  
Back into idol worship and  
Its low and vile concomitant,  
Adultery, in all its forms !

15. So, also, hast thou those who hold  
Views like the Nicolaitanes,  
Which things I deeply do abhor.

16. Repent, or else I'll quickly come  
And fight against them with the sword  
Of truth proceeding from my mouth.

17. He who hath still a listening ear,  
Let him attend the Spirit's words  
Unto the churches of our Lord :

To him that overcometh sin,  
The hidden manna will I give,  
Such food as Angels feast upon ;  
And I will also give to him  
A white and precious stone on which  
His own new name shall be engraved,  
In token of his heavenly rank —

As Princes often give a name  
To those they raise to high estate —  
But no man knoweth this new name  
Save he to whom it doth pertain.

18. Unto the Pastor of the church  
In Thyatira, thou shalt write  
These things saith He, the Son of God,  
Whose eyes like flaming fire denote  
A perfect knowledge of all things ;  
Whose feet like fine and burnished brass

Proclaim the strength and swiftness which  
Is seen in all His wond'rous acts :  
19 I know thy works and charity,  
Thy patient service and thy faith,  
The last which far exceeds the first ;  
20 And yet, 'gainst thee some things I find,  
Because thou dost, in sin, permit  
That woman, Jezebel, to teach  
And so seduce my servants, true,  
Vile fornications to commit,  
And eat those things to idols given :  
21 Space for repentance she hath had,  
But will not seek my face and live.  
22 Behold ! into a bed I'll cast  
Her with her vile associates,  
And send them tribulations sore,  
Except they turn from their dark deeds ;  
23 And I will kill her children with  
The noisome pestilence, till death  
Shall teach the churches I am He  
Who searcheth deep the inmost heart,  
Rewarding as their works shall be.  
No other burden will I lay  
24 On those of you who have not known  
The depths of Satan, as they teach ;  
25 But that which ye already have  
Hold fast until thy Lord doth come.  
26 He that o'ercometh sin and guilt,  
Thro' faith in me, and keepeth all  
My words and works until the end,

Of my rich grace I will impart,  
And unto him will surely give  
Great power o'er nations of the earth.  
E'en Kings and governments shall yield,  
At last, to righteous laws, and all  
Who will not thus obey shall feel  
27 The iron rod of wise control,  
Compelling them t' obey the truth;  
And that proud nation which rebels,  
Refusing justice to enthrone,  
Shall be destroyed like potter's ware,  
Which vile and worthless has become!  
This holy reign of righteousness  
Is from the God of heaven and earth,  
Who to His Son all power hath given,  
And for His sake the truth empowers  
To rule the world as heaven is ruled.  
28 This empire o'er the, then known, world  
Was only as the harbinger  
Of what is yet to come on earth;  
'Twas as the day-star to the dawn —  
Sure pledge and promise of full day,  
When all the nations of the world  
Shall know and own our blessed Lord.  
29 He who hath ears to hear may thus  
Hear what the Spirit saith, in truth and love,  
To all the churches of our Lord.

## CHAPTER III.

### LETTERS TO THE CHURCHES.

This chapter is a continuation of those letters from Christ to his Churches, which breathe such love and tenderness and yet such unswerving fidelity, in warning and rebuking. It is worthy of note that Christ mentions first the things which meet His approval before using His reluctant "nevertheless" with which He prefaces His loving but faithful rebukes. How important for His disciples to imitate this Spirit of love and forbearance!

1. Unto the Pastor of the church  
In Sardis write: These things saith He  
Who hath the Spirit's perfect power,  
And guards the pastors of His flock;  
I know, full well, thy fruitless works,  
A name to live hast thou, while dead  
To all the Gospel's holy claims!
2. To watch and strengthen what remains  
Of that already near to death,  
Must be thy prompt and faithful work.
3. Remember, therefore, how thou hast  
Received and heard the living word;  
Hold fast the truth; repent of sin;  
Or else, if thou dost cease to watch,  
E'en as a thief, I'll come to thee,  
And thou shalt not discern the hour

In which, with wrath, I'll surely come.

4. But e'en in Sardis some are found  
Whose garments have not been defiled  
By sin and dead formality,  
And they shall walk with me in white,  
For worthy are they of this grace.

5. He that o'ercometh shall be clothed  
In spotless robes, — Christ's righteousness,  
And never from the Book of Life  
Shall his fair name be blotted out ;  
And I will soon confess his name  
Before my Father and the hosts  
Of angels round His heavenly throne.

6. He who will listen, let him hear  
The Spirit's message to each church.

7. And to the Pastor of the church  
In faithful Philadelphia,  
Thus saith the True and holy One,  
Who holdeth David's royal key,  
To open doors in heaven or earth,  
In face of all the powers of death :

8. I know thy works which thou hast wrought—  
Behold, before thee widely stands  
An open door of usefulness,  
Which men or demons cannot shut !  
For thou hast still a little strength,  
By holding fast my faithful word  
And not denying my great name ;  
9. Behold, I soon will surely make  
The synagogue of Satan, who

So falsely boast that they are Jews,  
Come low before thy very feet  
And know the love I bear to thee !

10. Because thou hast so fully kept  
My word of patience and of truth,  
Thee I will keep *from* in that dark hour,  
When trials, like a fearful storm,  
Shall overspread a guilty world,  
All men to try who dwell on earth.

11. Behold ! I surely, quickly come ;  
Hold fast thy faith, so strong in me,  
That no man take thy heavenly crown.

12. He who o'ercometh I will make  
A pillar in the church of God,  
No more, forever, to go out ;  
On him I'll write my Father's name,  
And city of Jerusalem,  
Which cometh down from God and heaven  
Among the sons of men to dwell.

13. He who hath ears, oh, let him hear  
What God, the Spirit, saith to all  
The Churches of the Son of God.

14. Next, to the Pastor of the Church  
In La'doceia plainly write,  
These things saith He, Amen His name,  
God's witness, true and faithful, He,

15. Creator of all things :—

I know

Thy works, that neither cold nor hot  
Art thou ; I would thou wert thus cold



16. Or hot; so then, because of zeal  
Thus lukewarm and so valueless,  
I'll quickly spew thee from my mouth!
17. Because thou say'st, "Increased in goods  
And rich am I, with naught to wish";  
Yet knowest not that thou art poor  
And blind and wretched in my sight!
18. I counsel thee to buy of me  
The truth, like gold made pure by fire,  
And rich become in very deed;  
And also seek that raiment white —  
My righteousness so freely given,—  
To hide thy shame and nakedness;  
And thy weak eyes with eye salve heal,  
That thou may'st know and serve thy Lord.
19. I chasten and rebuke all whom  
I therefore, love; be zealous, now,  
And turn from all thy evil ways.
20. Behold! I stand at every door  
And knock, and thus admission seek  
Into each sinful human heart;  
And every man who heeds my voice,  
Op'ning to me his heart's true door,  
I'll enter in and sup with him  
And he with me, on heavenly fare.  
Till the deep hunger of the soul  
Is fully satisfied in me!
21. To him who overcometh sin,  
I'll surely grant a royal seat  
Of heavenly honor, power and joy,

---

With me on my own throne on high, —  
As I o'ercame and now sit down  
With my own Father on His throne.  
22. He who will yield attentive ear,  
Let him heed what the Spirit saith  
To all the churches of his Lord.

## CHAPTER IV.

## GOD AND HIS GOVERNMENT DESCRIBED.

This chapter gives us a most beautiful figurative description of God in His royal majesty, and yet peaceful and gracious character, surrounded by the representatives of His Church on earth; also of His government, symbolized by four living creatures, each of which represents some important attribute of that government as administered by God's providence in all ages, by all the heavenly and human agencies which he has appointed.

1. 'Twas after this I looked, and lo!  
A door was opened into heaven;  
The first voice which I heard was like  
A trumpet speaking thus to me,—  
“Come hither, and I'll show thee things  
Which must hereafter be fulfilled.”
2. At once the Spirit's mighty power  
Took full possession of my soul  
And filled it with prophetic light;  
Behold! a throne then met my gaze,  
High and exalted o'er all worlds;
3. And on that august throne sat One,  
Whose costly robes, in color like  
The jasper, or a sardine stone,  
Proclaimed Him King o'er heaven and earth!  
The iris, like an emerald fair,

Sweet peace proclaimed to all His saints ;  
 4. And round His throne were other thrones,  
 And on these seats of honor sat  
 The four and twenty elders of  
 Our Lord, blest representatives  
 Of his own church victorious,  
 Clad in the purest raiment white, —  
 The perfect righteousness of Christ, —  
 With crowns of gold upon their heads, —  
 A royal priesthood unto God .  
 5. Proceeding from this kingly throne  
 Were lightnings fierce and thunders loud,  
 And voices filling me with dread ;—  
 Denoting justice, power and wrath :  
 Seven burning lamps before the throne  
 Proclaimed the Spirit's presence and  
 His perfect knowledge joined with power.  
 6. Before the throne was spread a sea  
 Of glass, like unto crystal, clear  
 And calm as summer's placid waves,—  
 True emblem of the hosts of God,  
 Redeemed, obedient and blest !  
 And in the midst and round the throne,  
 Four living creatures full of eyes,  
 Before, behind, — expressing thus  
 Great wisdom, so were they prepared  
 God's government to shadow forth  
 By all created powers and agencies.  
 7. In form the first creature was like  
 A lion, thus denoting power

O'er all the nations of the earth ;  
Strength and endurance, too, were seen  
By a young bullock standing forth.  
The third symbolic creature was  
A man, in face and features, thus  
Denoting wisdom deep, in all  
The plans and purposes of God :  
A flying eagle was the last,  
Grand emblem of God's government,  
To show the speed with which He moves  
To execute His sovereign will :  
8. Each wondrous creature six wings had,  
And every wing was full of eyes,  
Expressing prompt and perfect power ;  
Both day and night, and resting not,  
They cry, " Holy, holy, holy,  
Lord God Almighty, ever blest,  
Who was, and is, and is to come !"  
9. And when the creatures glory, thanks  
And honors give to Him who sits  
Upon the throne, and evermore  
Shall live and reign o'er every world,  
10. The four and twenty elders fall  
Prostrate before the throne of Him  
Who sits thereon, and all with one  
United voice adore our God,  
Who ever lives ; and cast their crowns  
Before His throne, and loudly cry,—  
11. " Worthy, oh Lord, art Thou to have  
All glory, power and honor given ;

For all things Thou did'st erst create,  
And for Thy pleasure they exist,  
Past, present and forevermore!"

## CHAPTER V.

## CHRIST AND THE SEALED BOOK.

This chapter describes the mysterious Book of Prophecy, sealed with seven seals which no one but Christ could unloose. For this meritorious power He is first praised by the Elders and the living creatures; then John heard all the Angels of heaven join in this chorus of praise, and next, not only every one in heaven, but also on earth, united in ascriptions of honor and praise to the Lamb of God for His power to reveal to His disciples the mysteries of the future, so necessary for our Spiritual instruction and welfare.

1. And in the strong right hand of Him  
Who sat upon the throne of heaven  
Was seen a book, written within,  
Without, in words unknown to men;  
With seven seals the book was sealed:
2. With loudest voice, an angel, strong,  
Proclaimed, "Who, who is worthy to  
Unloose the seals and read the book?"
3. But not on earth nor yet in heaven  
Was found a soul to ope the book  
And loose the seven seals thereof,  
Or even look thereon in peace!
4. Much then I wept because no man  
Was worthy found to loose the seals,  
And read the words this book contained,  
And tell the future of the church!

5. One of the elders saith to me,  
 "Behold! the Lion of the Tribe  
 Of Judah, root of David, hath  
 Prevailed to open wide this book  
 And loose the seven seals thereof."
6. Lo! as I looked, within the throne,  
 The living creatures keeping guard,  
 Surrounded by the elders true,  
 A Lamb as if it had been slain;  
 The perfect Sacrifice for sin —  
 Seven horns and eyes had He to show  
 Almighty power and knowledge vast —  
 E'en as the Holy Spirit hath  
 All knowledge, so the Son of God  
 Possesses every attribute  
 Belonging to the Triune God.
7. He came with Spirit calm and mild  
 And from the hand of Him who sat  
 Upon the throne He took the book,  
 Mysterious, prophetic book; —
8. At once prostrate before the Lamb  
 Fell Living creatures, Elders, all,  
 Each having harps with which to praise,  
 And golden vials which contain  
 Most precious odours — prayers of saints,  
 A fragrant incense to their God.
9. A sweet new song they loudly sung,  
 "Worthy art thou, oh Christ of God,  
 To take this book and loose its seals,  
 For thou wast slain and hast redeemed



Us unto God from every tongue  
And tribe and kindred of the earth ;  
10. And unto God hast made us Kings  
And priests to reign in righteousness  
In highest heaven and on the earth.”  
11. And lo ! the voice of angels loud,  
Thousands of thousands, now were heard  
Uniting in this song of praise ;  
12. “Worthy the Lamb who once was slain  
All power and wisdom to receive,  
Honor and glory evermore !”  
13. And every creature in the heavens  
Or on the earth, or under earth,  
Or in the seas, yea, everything  
That breathed the breath of life heard I  
Cry, “Blessing, honor, glory, power,  
Forever be ascribed to Him  
Who sitteth on the throne and to  
The Lamb, God’s well-beloved Son !”  
14. And the living Creatures with the  
Elders, falling prostrate, worshiped Him,  
God over all, who lives for aye.

## CHAPTER VI.

## THE DECLINE AND FALL OF PAGAN ROME.

This chapter contains a series of wonderful prophecies, uttered through the medium of the most startling and yet beautiful figures. As the predictions of Revelation, according to the inspired declaration of John, were "shortly" to begin to be fulfilled we naturally look back to the history of the times immediately succeeding the writing of this book. And we, therefore, find a consecutive and complete fulfillment of these predictions from near the days of the Apostles to the final overthrow of pagan Rome, all of which is embraced in this chapter. The white horse with his warrior-rider, evidently refers to the prosperous reign of the Roman Emperor; — from the death of *Domitian*, A. D. 96, to the accession of *Commodus*, A. D. 180 — nearly one hundred years, when Rome was at the zenith of her power and glory, before the beginning of those internal wars and northern invasions, which caused her final decline and fall.

The second horse, which was red, denoted war and carnage as described in the paraphrase, in which the symbolical meaning of the other horses and their riders it explained.

1. When one of those mysterious seals  
Was opened, by the Lamb, I heard  
One of the living Creatures say,  
In tones of thunder, "Come, and see!"
- 2 And, as I looked, Lo! I beheld  
A Warrior bold on a white horse —  
An emblem of triumphant arms;  
And unto him was given a bow  
And Kingly crown, as forth he went,  
A Conqueror, to conquests great

O'er all who opposed his prosperous reign.  
T'was in these days of peace and power,  
Till near a hundred years had fled, —  
When Nerva, Trajan, Adrian,  
And both the Antonines held sway,  
When Rome was at the zenith of  
Her power and glory in the world ;  
And every nation trembled at  
Her name and bold, victorious arms.

3. And when the second seal was loosed  
I heard the second Creature say, —  
“Come, see the desolations here  
Revealed, to warn and guide the Church !”

4. Then, Lo ! another horse went forth,  
In color red, denoting war ;  
To him who sat thereon was given  
The power to banish peace from earth,  
Permitting wasting wars to rage  
In fatal fury for a time ; —  
Till near another hundred years  
Had passed, internal wars prevailed.

5. And when the next seal was unloosed,  
The living Creature third then spake,  
Inviting all to come and see :  
As I beheld, lo ! a black horse  
Came forth, and on this horse sat one  
Who held a pair of balances,  
And from the throne of God in heaven,  
Surrounded by the living ones, —  
God's government personified, —

6. A voice proclaimed,  
     "Wheat shall be sold,  
 Each measure for a penny" — yea,  
 The price of one hard day of toil —  
 "One quart of wheat for fourteen cents;  
 Three quarts of barley for the same."  
 This scarcity was caused by hard  
 And unjust taxes levied on  
 The men who tilled the rugged soil,  
 Until, in desperation, they  
 Refused to toil for naught only  
 To fill the coffers of their Kings:  
 They then destroyed their olive-trees,  
 And vines, and wheat refused to sow; —  
 But soon the imperial edict came,  
 "See that thou hurt not oil or wine  
 On pain and penalty of death!"  
 Thus they were forced to labor on  
 By tyrants seeking not their weal,  
 Nor caring for the public good:  
 The Roman Empire hastened thus  
 Its own decline and final fall.
7. And when the next seal was unloosed  
 The living Creature fourth I heard
8. Proclaim, "Come, see!" and, as I looked,  
 Behold! a pale horse next was seen;  
 "Death" was his name who sat thereon,  
 And Hades followed after him,—  
 As though the graves were opened, and  
 The dead were in his retinue,

So fearful was the carnage wrought,  
By sword and famine, long and dire,  
By wild and rav'ning beasts of prey,  
By Civil wars and foreign hordes  
Of northmen, warriors fierce and bold,  
Invading Rome's fair empire vast;  
Near two score years the carnage raged,  
Till Rome was humbled in the dust.

9. And when the fifth seal was unloosed,  
Under the altar, symbol true  
Of Christ's great sacrifice for sin,  
I saw the souls of those who, slain  
Because of testimony given

By them for Christ and His blest Word,—

10. With one united heart and voice—

“How long, oh, true and holy Lord,  
Ere thou shalt judge and swift avenge  
Our blood on those who dwell on earth?”

11. Then unto them white robes were given,  
And they were told that they should rest  
A little season yet, until

Their brethren, who were still on earth,  
Should seal by martyrdom, as they  
Had done, their faith in God's pure word.

12. And when the sixth seal was unloosed,  
A mighty earthquake shook the earth;  
The sun grew black as sackcloth made  
Of blackest hair; the silvery moon  
Became a crimson red, like blood;

13. And like untimely figs, the stars

Fell darkling to the trembling earth !

14. The very heavens departed like  
A scroll together quickly rolled,  
Mountains and islands too were moved  
Far from their native places, as  
Though nature was convulsed in death !  
A figure too, and prophecy,  
Of God's great, final, judgment day !

15. And now the Kings who ruled the earth,  
And all the rich and mighty men,  
And those in bonds as well as free,  
Fled to the mountain dens and caves,

16. And cried, " Fall on us, oh, ye rocks  
And mountains great, and hide us from  
The frowning face of God and from  
The wrath of His own Son, the Lamb !

17. The day of wrath, to pagan Rome,  
So long delayed, at last has come ;  
And who can stand the awful test ? "

As this proud pagan empire oft  
Had filled the cup of hellish wrath,  
And pressed it to the lips of saints,  
God now returned the selfsame cup,  
Filled with His indignation just,  
Till rulers in their anguish cried  
To heaven for mercy, and confessed  
Their cruel persecutions of  
The true and righteous sons of God !  
And now, high-seated on the throne  
Of Rome's vast empire, Constantine,

The friend of Christ's long-suffering church,  
Proclaimed by edicts grand and just  
That He who is the King of Kings  
Should be adored, obeyed and loved,  
And that the Church of His dear Son  
Should be protected, honored, served  
By him and all his subjects true ;  
The worship of dumb idols was  
By law condemned, and God alone  
Acknowledged over all Supreme !

## CHAPTER VII.

### OPENING AND EXPLANATION OF SEALS CONTINUED.

This chapter describes the restraining of the Northern hordes from overrunning Rome until, during a prolonged time of peace, under Constantine and other emperors who were favorable to Christianity, God should seal and save a large number of souls to the praise of the riches of His grace.

1. 'Twas after these terrific scenes,  
 With Constantine now on the throne,  
 I saw four angels standing at  
 The corners of the earth to hold  
 The four winds of the world, that they  
 Should not blow fiercely o'er the land  
 Or sea, uprooting trees laden  
 With fruit, or wrecking ships at sea;—  
 True emblem, this, of that restraint  
 By which the northern hordes were held  
 In check, of God, till multitudes  
 From every clan and tribe and tongue,  
 Should be redeemed and sealed to Christ,
2. Like rising sun in eastern sky,  
 In regal splendor and in power,  
 Another Angel came in view—  
 The Lord and Saviour of His church,  
 With th' seal and sanction of our God,



And cried, with voice of Sovereign might,  
To those four Angels who had power  
To overwhelm proud Rome in war; —  
3. “Restrain the winds and storms of strife,  
Which soon, full soon, shall desolate  
The earth, till we have sealed the souls,  
To me in covenant given, before  
The world was made to be my own  
Forever, purchased by my blood.”  
4. And now, I, John, with thankfulness  
To God heard told the number vast  
5. Thus saved, of Jews a harvest true,  
6. From every tribe, who turned to Christ  
7. In these glad times of fulness  
8. And refreshing to the Gentile world :  
9. And after this another sight,  
More glorious still, burst on my view ;  
A multitude, too great to count,  
From every nation, tongue and clime,  
Before the throne of God, the Lamb,  
Stood forth, clothed in the spotless robes  
Of Christ, our Righteousness, with palms  
In their glad hands, emblems of joy  
And victory, while with one voice  
10. They cried : “Salvation to our God  
Upon the throne and to the Lamb !”  
11. And all the Angels round the throne,  
Who stand as sentinels, on guard,  
About the church, fell low before  
The throne upon their faces, and

12. They worshiped God and said : " Amen !

Yea,

Blessing, glory, wisdom, power,  
With everlasting praises great,  
Be to our God, Most High, Amen ! "

13. One of the Elders then inquired  
Of me, " Who are these thus arrayed  
In robes of spotless white, and whence

14. Came they ? "

I unto him replied,

" Thou knowest, oh, most noble Sir. "

" These are they, " said he, " who out of  
Tribulations great have come, and  
Who have cleansed their garments in the  
Precious blood of Christ, the Lamb.

15. Therefore are they before the throne  
Of God and serve Him day and night,  
In His own temple, made with hands ;  
And He who sits upon the throne

16. Shall dwell among them ; and they ne'er  
Shall hunger more, nor thirst for peace,  
Nor shall the sun smite them with  
Hurtling blasts of wrathful heat ; —

Their royal rulers shall protect  
And bless the church which Christ doth bless ;

17. The Lamb, though seated on His throne,  
Shall be their Shepherd still, to feed  
Them in the pastures of His grace ;  
And to the fountains of His love,  
Sweetly He'll guide them, and their God

Shall wipe all tears away as they  
Recount the wond'rous way by which  
They have been saved from all their foes.”  
Then answered were the earnest prayers  
Of dying martyrs, that their blood  
Might be avenged on all their foes  
On earth, who had for ages ruled  
O'er them in fiendish pride and power,  
Through persecutions ten, till hope  
And patience were well nigh worn out.  
And now the church enjoyed long rest,  
And peace, while daily, multitudes  
Were added to them, such as should  
Be saved when Christ again shall come  
To gather up His jewels rare,  
And place them in His diadem  
Where they shall shine forevermore.  
For four-score happy years and more,  
These halcyon days of peace, the church  
Enjoyed, in which the blasting winds  
Of war and persecution were  
Restrained by God's own mighty power :  
Idolatry, which ruled the world  
So many ages by its dark  
And senseless rites and cruel deeds,  
Was banished from the land by law ;  
And God's own Kingdom, in its stead,  
Reigned far and wide as Sin had ruled !

## CHAPTER VIII.

### SEVENTH SEAL OPENED AND WOE-TRUMPETS SOUNDED.

The opening of the Seventh Seal and the appearance of the Seven Angels, each with his trumpet. These woe-trumpets included predictions concerning the complete overthrow of imperial and also of papal Rome, from the invasion of the Roman Empire by Alaric, King of the Goths, A. D. 395-410, until the beginning of the millenium which is yet future.

I. And when the seventh seal was loosed,  
Silence and peace prevailed for half  
An hour throughout the Christian world :—  
Freedom from persecution still  
The church enjoyed, for a short space ;  
And yet forebodings of a war,  
A desolating war by hordes  
Of cruel northmen, made this peace  
Oppressive, like the awful calm  
Preceding and presaging storms  
Which burst upon the earth in wild  
And awful majesty and power.  
Barbarian arms, already, had  
Made inroads on the soil of Rome ;  
And, like vast flocks of carrion birds,

These armies hovered near, ready  
To feast upon the carcass of  
This old, effete and dying realm :  
The winds of war, so long restrained,  
Had now become a whirlwind, which  
Should execute the wrath of God  
On this old Kingdom for her sins  
Of greed, and violence, and war,  
Toward weaker nations, till her cup  
Of guilt was full and called to heaven  
For retribution, deep and long !

2. Therefore the seven Angels, strong,  
Which stood before the Throne of God  
Received commission to proclaim,  
With trumpets loud, the coming woes  
3. Of Rome.

Another angel came  
And stood before the Altar, where  
God's sacrifice for sin was laid —  
The pure and spotless Son of God —  
A golden censer in his hand he held,  
And unto him was freely given  
Much incense, — symbolic of the  
Merits of our Saviour God,  
That He should offer it with all  
The prayers of all the Saints to God  
Upon the golden altar, which  
Before the awful throne of Heaven  
4. Was seen ; and from the Angel's hand  
The fragrant incense rose to heaven ;

A sacrifice and offering meet.

5. The censer next the Angel took  
And filled with altar fire,  
And cast it quickly down to earth,  
In answer to the plaints and prayers  
Of God's elect, who, night and day,  
Had cried to Him for vengeance on  
This cold and cruel government,  
That cared for naught save pomp  
And power, for gold and empty fame !  
Then voices, lightnings, thunderings,  
And earthquakes terrible, proclaimed  
These woes at hand. Doubts, tumults, and  
Commotions wild, in church and state,  
Exposed the weak and rotten base  
On which this mighty kingdom stood ;  
And thus invited foreign foes,  
Like rav'ning beasts, to fall upon  
And tear in pieces, limb by limb,  
This great but helpless tyrant, Rome.

16. And now the trumpet sounded forth  
From angel lips that war had come ;

17. Then swiftly fell the dreadful storm  
Of hail, and fire, and blood, until  
A third of all the trees were burned,  
And all green grain and grass destroyed—  
True symbols these of bloody war :  
King of the Goths, Alaric, bold  
Fell on the country like a storm—  
Like a tornado wild and fierce

His northern hordes swept o'er the land,  
Destroying trees and standing grain,  
Defying laws and killing men,  
Until one third of all the power  
And prestige of old Rome was gone !

8. The second Angel sounded next,  
And, as it were, a mountain great,  
Burning with fire, into the sea  
Was cast, and suddenly a third  
Part of the sea was turned to blood ; —

9. A third of all the sea contained  
Of value to the state was lost ;  
The vandal King, Genseric, bold,  
Led on his legions to the fray,  
Inspiring them by Rome's deserts  
And they the "sword in God's own hand,"  
By which earth's proudest nation must  
Be punished, scourged and overthrown !  
Italia's long extended coast, —  
The shores of Spain, Greece, Sicily,  
Yea, from the columns of Old Hercules  
E'en to the wide-mouthed Nile, swift-winged  
These vandals carried terror, death  
And desolation, till a third  
Of Rome's vast naval power was gone, —  
A third of all her ships destroyed,  
And her once Sovereign rule o'er all  
The seas was broken evermore !  
10. The third Angel next sounded forth  
Another call to bloody war ;

A burning star was seen to fall  
From th' heavens headlong to the earth;  
Like some huge, blazing meteor,  
It fell upon a third of all  
The rivers and the fountains, which  
From the lofty Alps poured forth  
Their precious treasures o'er the land.  
11. "Wormwood" the name of this red star,  
And bitter were the waters made,  
Till multitudes had died therefrom;—  
So fell Attila, proud, upon  
The tottering Empire of old Rome :  
The "Sword of Mars," he named himself, —  
That fiery star, the "God of war,"  
Fit emblem was of this fierce King  
Whose seat of war was near the Alps;  
And like its rushing streams he led  
His conquering hosts, the Huns,  
Far o'er the plains of Europe, till  
From river Euxine's shores unto  
The Adriatic Sea, Attila's power  
Was felt in carnage wild and long.  
Of Rome's domain, so vast,  
A third part met in battles fierce,  
For two-score years, this "Scourge of God";  
And even when he passed away,  
And his great army fell apart,  
Still bitter and destructive were  
The waters left, as, cursed of God!  
The sources of Rome's government,



Were failing fast ; —the Empire's star  
Was setting in a sea of blood !  
12. By angel lips the trumpet fourth  
Was heard, denouncing further woe : —  
The northern enemies of Rome  
Still planned and plotted war and death ; —  
That heathen chief, Odoacer  
Led forth the Heruli, and like  
A dark portentous storm,  
By them the very heavens grew dark,  
The sun, and moon, and stars shone dim,  
Until one third their light was gone !  
'Twas thus one third of day and night —  
One third the Christian era should  
This darkness dense reign o'er the earth,  
Until again the light would shine,  
In fullness and in beauty, when  
"The times of reformation from  
The Lord " should come in Luther's day.  
'Twas now Rome's mighty empire fell  
And lost her name as well as power :  
The Italian kingdom took her place,  
And northern kings ruled at their will.  
13. And I beheld with trembling awe,  
An angel, as with eagle's wings,  
Midst heaven swiftly fly and cry,  
In loud and bitter tones, "Woe !  
Woe ! woe ! to earth's inhabitants,  
By reason of the trumpets three,  
Which o'er the world must shortly sound."

## CHAPTER IX.

## RISE AND DOMINATION OF MOHAMMEDANISM.

This chapter evidently refers to the Mohammedan delusion; — to the power of Mohammed and his armies in punishing those who had rejected the gospel, and in propagating his own errors at the point of the sword and by the use of fire-arms, which had then been discovered and were used in war.

1. And now the Angel fifth was heard,  
In trumpet tones, proclaiming woe :  
From the heavens a star then fell,  
Like burning meteor swiftly hurled,  
From some strange planet, down to earth,  
Blazing and hissing in his path  
Of death, on wild destruction bent !  
'Twas thus Mohammed, cursed of heaven,  
Began his work of death ; a scourge  
And deadly curse, raised up of God  
Like one of old, as a sharp sword  
To punish those who wilfully  
Rejected Christ and that rich grace,  
Which He for ages proffered them : —  
And now God gives them over to  
Their choice ; and proud and cruel men  
Make merchandise of them until  
They howl in agony and pain !

To this false Prophet there was given  
2. The key of hell's abyss, with which  
This soundless pit he opes ; from thence  
A smoke, as from a furnace hot,  
Came forth and darkened sun and sky ;—  
3. And from the smoke vile locusts came,  
To war and forage o'er the earth ;  
And unto them was given power,  
Such as the dreaded scorpions have,  
To sting and kill the sons of men.  
4. By their commander they were held  
From injuring grass or trees of earth,  
Or any green and living thing,  
But only wicked men on whom  
The seal of God had not been placed.  
5. But these fierce, human locusts were  
Restrained from killing these same men,  
But to torment them they had power—  
These hardened enemies of God,  
For five mysterious months, which by  
Interpretation means a year  
For each prophetic day, and thus  
For fifty and one hundred years,  
These bitter woes should reign o'er them !  
Like scorpion stings, which strike the flesh  
With torments deep and long, they caused  
Their captives hardships to endure  
Beyond the power of tongue to tell.  
6. And in those days did men seek death,  
Because of persecutions sharp and long,

Yet could not find the welcome boon —  
 Their persecutors sparing life,  
 That men might live to suffer more  
 Than death itself an hundredfold.

7. Like horses, ready for the fray,  
 These locusts looked, and on their heads  
 Were yellow turbans which appeared  
 Like crowns of gold; with faces like  
 The faces of fierce warriors bold,

Thus showing that these foes were men;

8. And yet long hair had they, twisted  
 And braided, like a woman's hair,  
 And cruel teeth, like lion's teeth,  
 With which to rend and tear their foes:

9. They also iron breastplates wore,  
 Like locusts' hard and horny breasts,—  
 Well clad in armor thus were they;  
 And like the sound of many wheels  
 Of battle-chariots was heard.

This cloud of countless locusts' wings.

10. These hordes of savage Saracens  
 Stung and tormented men until  
 The five prophetic months had passed:

11. And over them they had a king —  
 From hell's abyss a messenger —  
 Abaddon, in the Hebrew tongue,  
 His name, Apolyon in the Greek,  
 Which means in both these tongues  
 Destroyer; and who, oh, who  
 So worthy of this demon name

As bold Mohammed, prophet false,  
Both Priest and King of his fierce church?

12. One woe is passed, and, lo! two woes

13. Shall follow this:

Then sounded forth

The Angel sixth with trumpet blast;—

I heard a voice which issued from

The golden altar with its horns

Of strength, in number four, which stands

Before the God of heaven and earth,—

Making the prayers of saints prevail,—

14. Saying to the Angel sixth which had

The trumpet: "Loose the angels four,

Bound in Euphrates' ancient stream."

15. And these four angels then were loosed,

Which were prepared, as heaven's scourge,

To slay and kill one third the men,

Where these fierce wars should rage;—

For one prophetic hour and day

And month and year, predicted times

And periods in which these wars

Were waged, and thus it was

That God's own word might be fulfilled.

16. I also heard the number given

Of this vast horde of horsemen swift,

"Two hundred thousand, thousand men."

17. And in the vision thus I saw

These horses and the men who sat

On them; breastplates of fire had they,—

Of jacinth and brimstone they seemed:

With lions' heads these horses were  
 Possessed, denoting craft and strength ;  
 And from their mouths there issued fire  
 18. And smoke and brimstone — by these three  
 One third of all their foes were killed ;  
 19. For their great power is in their mouths  
 And in their tails, and these same tails  
 Like serpents were, with fatal fangs :  
 Thus did the Turkish army fight,  
 With fresh-invented means of death ; —  
 By powder, shot, with deadly power,  
 Their foes they o'ercame, and thus  
 The vision was fulfilled of "fire  
 And smoke and brimstone," by which John  
 Beheld these men o'ercome and killed.  
 And after they had conquered them,  
 By hard and grinding laws they held  
 Them in a bondage worse than death !  
 19. Thus by their mouths they killed a part,  
 And by their tails, with serpent mouths,  
 Tormented those who were not killed :  
 20. But these same men who were not slain,  
 Though thus oppressed, repented not,  
 Nor ceased to worship demons fierce,  
 Instead of serving God's own Son ;  
 The works of their own hands they served,  
 And worshiped gods of wood and stone  
 Which cannot see or hear or talk :  
 21. Neither repented they of all  
 Their murders, thefts, and sorceries,  
 Nor of their vile adulteries.

## CHAPTER X.

## LUTHER AND THE REFORMATION.

In this chapter we have a true and beautiful description of the reformation in Luther's day.

Under the figure of an "angel", or messenger, a term applied in the first chapter of Revelation to ministers of the gospel, Luther appears, like the rising sun, to drive away the mists and darkness of papal superstitions; but his lion-like protest receives from the "Seven-hilled City" of Rome only her anathemas.

The Reformers spiritually eat and digest the truths of the Bible, which Luther unchains and opens to all the people, and the prediction, which has since been fulfilled, is made, that the preaching of these Bible-truths must be heard among all nations.

1. I saw a mighty Angel come  
From heaven,—a messenger of power  
And purity, God's minister,  
To teach and bless benighted souls;  
Such Luther was, God's servant true,  
Clothed with a dark, mysterious cloud,—  
Symbolic of the ignorance,  
So gross and deep, which filled the world;—  
A rainbow round his head was seen  
To prove the darkling storm was now  
About to break, while light and peace  
Should shed their radiance far and wide;

His heavenly face shone like the sun,  
Denoting knowledge vast and clear,  
Which, like the sun's benignant rays,  
Should dissipate the darkness deep,  
And cause the world to know the truth : —  
Like fiery pillars were his feet, —  
So strong and swift God's will to do.

2. Within his hand he held a book, —  
Wide opened held a little book ; —  
The word of God was now about  
To be unchained and opened wide  
And taught to all who dwell on earth,  
To all who gladly hear the truth  
And wish to know and do God's will :  
With right foot on the broad, deep sea,  
And left foot resting on the earth,  
He taught the fact that, far and wide,  
O'er land and sea, his words should go  
In opposition to the papal power ;

3. Thus like the lion's awful roar  
His voice was heard, denouncing wrath  
Against the errors of the Church  
Whereby the souls of men were drowned  
In depths of darkness and of woe !  
But, hark ! the Seven-hilled City, Rome,  
Her wrathful thunders hurls at him ; —  
Anathemas, like lightnings, fall  
About his consecrated head !

4. Attention at the first he gives  
To what the Church in wrath proclaims,



But soon a voice from heaven he hears,  
Commanding him to seal the words  
Rome thundered forth and write them not;  
Her cup of wrath was well-nigh filled,

And all her words he must abjure,

And all her wrath, thro' Christ, defy !

5. The angel standing on the sea

And on the earth, with lifted hand,

6. Sware by the Maker of all things

That time no longer should delay,

7. But while the seventh angel sounds

Prophetic mysteries should end,

As to His prophets God had said.

8. Again the voice from heaven I heard,

Commanding me to go and take

The little book from angel hands, —

9. I went, the angel gave and said, —

“Take, eat it up, and it shall make

Thy belly bitter, yet in thy

Mouth as sweet as honey it shall

10. Be”:

I took the little book and

Ate it up, and, lo ! like honey

In the comb, 'twas sweet unto my taste;

(Precious, indeed, was God's own word

To holy men in those dark days,)

And yet as soon as they did eat

Of this blest word, the bitterness

Of papal persecution fell,

To mar and rend their peaceful souls !

11. Again the angel spake and said ;—  
“ Before all peoples, nations, kings,  
This book, so long neglected by  
The papal church, like leaves shall fly,  
To heal and save the souls of men !

## CHAPTER XI.

THE DEATH, RESURRECTION AND TRIUMPH OF THE  
WITNESSES OVER ROMANISM.

This chapter continues the description of the work of the reformation. Luther's mission, next to exposing the errors and corruptions of Rome, was to unfold anew the doctrines of grace, especially the doctrine of justification alone by faith, as symbolized by the "altar", which he was to measure and place in its true position in the church of Christ. The testimony of the "two witnesses", *i. e.* the true church, during the twelve hundred and sixty years of papal domination, which began A. D. 606, and their temporary defeat and destruction at the end of this period by the papal "beast" is also here given, with the marvelous results which follow; all of which predictions, we believe, will in the near future, be fulfilled in Europe.

While the end of the world is nowhere in the Bible made a matter of dates and figures, yet the time when Romanism rises and falls is so made, and it is wise for us to ascertain these dates.

It was in A. D. 606, that Romanism took its rise, as in that year Phocas, the Roman Emperor, by his imperial edict, proclaimed Boniface, the pastor of the church in Rome, head over all the pastors and churches in christendom. By adding 1260 years, the time in which Romanism was to dominate in the world, we come to 1866. It was in this latter year that France, through Napoleon the 3d, withdrew her troops from the support of the Papal states, when Italy soon gained her unity, and the temporal power of the Pope was paralyzed; he since then calling himself a "prisoner", and refusing to be comforted. But there are two other epochs or periods spoken of by Daniel; the first thirty years later than 1866, and the last period 45 years beyond that, carrying us to A. D. 1941. Of this latter period Daniel says, "Blessed is he that waiteth and cometh to the thousand three hundred

and five and thirty days." Concerning these three periods, Thomas Scott, essentially, says they mean that Catholicism and other Anti-Christian powers will begin to end in 1866, and will probably be completely overthrown by the second period (viz.) A. D. 1896, and forty-five years after that, A. D. 1941 will begin the Millenium. (See Scott's notes on Daniel. Chaps. 8 and 12.)

1. To Luther now a reed was given,  
A measuring rod, to measure true  
The Church of Christ, redeemed by blood,  
In which the Triune God abides,  
As erst he dwelt in Temples made  
With hands: The altar, too, on which  
The bloody sacrifice was laid —  
Symbolic of the Antitype  
The Lord, our sacrifice for sin —  
Must also be described, defined,  
And rightly placed before the world,  
That all might know that grace still reigns,  
And all who trust in Christ shall live!  
He, also, was required to test  
The faith and works of God's elect,  
Thus separating them from all  
Who held the errors of old Rome.
2. This court outside the living church,  
Must not be measured, or upheld,  
As still the Church of Christ, our Lord;  
'Twas given to the papal power ; —  
The holy city, Church of Christ,  
Must be, by them, opposed, and for  
Twelve hundred years and sixty should

Be proudly trodden underfoot ;  
Beginning from the hour, when one  
Poor pastor of the church at Rome  
Was by the emperor proclaimed  
*The head o'er all the pastors of  
The realm, and his one church as head  
O'er all the Churches of our Lord !*

And for twelve hundred centuries  
And sixty years, in thralldom, should  
These churches basely serve their head !  
3. " But unto my two witnesses,"  
Saith Christ, " who hold the truth in love,  
Heaven's power I'll give thro' that long space,  
In which proud Rome shall rule :  
Their testimony true shall be,—  
Altho' in sackcloth and in tears,  
And persecutions unto death,—  
My condemnation of that church,  
Which I no longer own as my  
Pure Bride, but as a harlot, bold,  
Courting the smiles and company  
Of all the proud and vile on earth ;  
Committing fornications with  
The kings and kingdoms which will bow  
In grovelling worship at her feet !  
4. These witnesses my true church are,  
Called in past ages "olive trees,"  
Through which the oil of grace distilled,  
To bless the world with light and truth ;  
And my two golden lamps which held

The sacred oil, and stand before the God  
Of heaven, and earth, and, far and wide,  
Flash forth the light on blinded souls !

5. And any power which injures them  
Fire from their mouths shall issue forth,  
To blast their foes ; not literal flames

As when Elijah once defied

The king and all his myrmidons,

And called down fire upon their heads —

But by their words of truth they smite  
With deadlier power their enemies,  
And in this manner are they killed.

6. And these have power to shut the heavens,  
That rain fall not, until the time

When God shall please to grant this boon ;

And o'er the waters they have power

To turn them into blood, — dire wars,

In answer to their prayers, break forth,

And nations strong which have defied

The judgments of High Heaven, have fallen  
Before His throne low in the dust !

And often as they will they smite

The people, steeped in sin, with plagues,

Thus bring to God the honor due

His Holy Name : But now, alas !

7. When they their testimony end,

And those twelve centuries have passed,

The Beast, ascending from th' abyss,

With fresh and fiercer powers from hell,

Makes war against these witnesses,

And overcomes and kills them ;— yet  
8. Refuses decent burial for  
The dead, and keeps their bodies from  
The grave, — to show his great contempt  
And hatred for the church of Christ,  
Which ages long, so true, has been  
To Him and to His truth, — within  
The streets of that vast city where  
Holds rule the Harlot church, which for  
Her sinful practices is called  
“Sodom and Egypt,” — where of old  
All forms of superstition reigned,  
And Vice stalked forth with brazen mien,  
To drown the souls of men in woe! —  
'Twas in such days and deeds as these  
Our Lord was crucified for men.  
9. And all the peoples of the earth,  
All tongues and nations now behold  
These sacred bodies of the just,  
Three and one half prophetic days, —  
Which is for every day a year, —  
And join with Rome in proud contempt  
Of Christ's own martyred saints and will  
Not suffer them to rest beneath  
The sod in quiet graves, but like  
Wild savages, in fiendish glee,  
Abuse and mutilate the dead,  
And hold them up to scorn and shame !  
10. And they that dwell upon the earth,  
The peoples, nations, kindreds, powers,

Shall over them make merry and  
Rejoice, and in their joy send gifts  
To one another, proclaiming thus  
Their pleasure that these prophets true,  
Who had so long tormented them,

By holding forth the faithful word,—  
Would now no longer trouble men !

11. But, when three and one half short years  
Have passed, God's Spirit enters them ;—

At once upon their feet they stand,

As erst the bones Ezekiel saw,

When clothed with flesh and breathed upon

By God's own Spirit from above,

Sprang forth to life, an army bold,

So these slain witnesses arise

Clothed with new life and power ;—

A zeal and courage as of old,

When Christ's disciples faced e'en death

Without a fear,—yea, filled with joy!

12. 'Tis now they hear a voice from heaven,

Inviting them to realms above,

Where seats of honor wait for them ;—

And in a body, large and grand,

They rise, as when the sun breaks forth

Amidst the clouds, in regal power,

Dispelling storm and darkness, fear

And gloom ; 'tis thus Christ's people rise

Before their now astonished foes ;

Some are caught up at once to heaven

By cruel deaths in fighting for



The truth ; and soon all are brought near  
The thrones of earthly power, and are  
Protected in their civil and  
Religious rights by governments,  
Which for a time had yielded to  
The horrid claims of papal Rome ;  
But now, awake to her foul plots  
In state, as well as church, they rise,  
Defending all their subjects 'gainst  
These papal plans to rob them of  
Their liberty ; as Constantine  
Protected Christians in his day  
And stilled the wrathful waves which beat  
Against them by old pagan Rome :

    This resurrection to new life  
    Fills with dismay their enemies  
    Who by such heavenly power bestowed  
    Read their own doom in words of fire !

13. And in that hour an earthquake great,—  
A wonderful uprising, grand  
And wide, of many peoples, proves  
That Rome must perish in this last  
Attempt of hers to rule the world !

    All this divine and human aid  
    Bestowed upon the church in her  
    Dark hour of pain and need was seen  
    And felt by all her enemies !  
Well grounded are their fears, for by  
This mighty earthquake is one third  
Of all Rome's power on earth destroyed !

Like some vast building rent and torn  
 By nature's wild, convulsive throes,—  
 So by the military power  
 Of these awakened nations, soon,  
 Are slain of her adherents proud,  
 Seven thousand men, denoting thus  
 That Rome's vast power is broken now,  
 No more to threaten war and woe  
 Against those nations who refuse  
 To own her sway and bow the knee  
 To her vile superstitions, born  
 Of Hell! And now the remnant of  
 Rome's slaves are frightened and give God  
 The glory due His name for these  
 Great wonders He has wrought!

14. The second woe has passed and soon  
 The third must follow in its wake;  
 15. For thro' the angry heavens was heard  
 The Seventh Angel, sounding loud;  
 And next great voices in the church  
 Were heard proclaiming to all men —

“The kingdoms of this world are now  
 Become the kingdoms of our God  
 And of His Christ, Anointed King  
 O'er all the kingdoms of the earth,  
 And He shall reign forevermore!

16. Then on their faces fell the four  
 And twenty elders giving praise  
 To God and crying with one voice  
 17. “We give Thee thanks, Almighty God,

Who wast, and art, and art to come,  
Because Thou hast Thy mighty power  
18. Displayed, and reigned; and angry are  
Those foolish nations, leagued with Rome :

Yea, Thy great wrath has come, the time  
The dead, in superstitions and  
In sin, should be condemned by Thee,  
And utterly o'erthrown for aye!—  
And that at last reward should come  
To Thy true prophets and Thy saints,  
Who fear and love Thy Holy Name,  
Both small and great in every age,  
And every land, where truth has reigned;—

Yea dire destruction now has come  
To those who long have cursed the earth,  
By words and deeds corrupt as hell !  
19. And then, as though the gates of heaven  
Wide opened flew and all therein  
Revealed, pure gospel truths at last  
Are taught—and thus the antitype  
Of that most sacred ark thro' which  
God once communed with His own church—  
Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ—  
Shall be revealed in truth to men !

This wondrous reformation is  
Secured amidst the shock and crash  
Of mighty nations, when both crowns  
And kingdoms are destroyed and thus  
The way prepared for liberty,  
And light, and peace, to reign throughout

The world, instead of tyranny  
And superstitions dark and deep.

These closing days of strife and war  
Are like the elements at war  
When tempests, fire, and earthquake meet  
And mingle in a mighty charge  
On this poor trembling world of ours,  
Till strongest hearts grow weak,  
And every face is blanched with fear  
At what is coming on the earth;—  
Yet all this strife and shock is but  
The prelude to the peaceful age,—  
The golden age so long desired,  
Which God has promised to His church,  
When truth and righteousness shall rule  
O'er all the world, as sin has reigned  
Thro' dark and bloody ages past!  
So come, O, Lord, in mighty strength,  
And banish from a suffering world  
Rome's hateful tyranny and power!

## CHAPTER XII.

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF PREDICTIVE CHURCH HISTORY  
DOWN TO THE PRESENT TIME.

In the now rapidly moving panorama of prophecy, we have, in this chapter, an outline of the history of the Gospel Church, from the close of the first century till near the end of papal domination.

From the thirteenth verse to the end of this chapter, we have a remarkable prediction concerning the flight of the Puritans and Pilgrims, or the true church, to the, then, "wilderness" of North America. Andrew Fuller, and Smith in his "Key to Revelation", both agree with the writer that it must refer to this country, as it has been the only great flight of the church from persecution since the Reformation in Luther's day. This prediction gives us hope that in this country the struggle will not be so severe and bloody as in Europe, as described in the preceding chapter.

1. A wonder now appears in Heaven —  
Within the church of Christ on earth,  
The type and pledge of that bright world —  
A woman with the sun arrayed, —  
    A royal garment this, indeed,  
    A symbol true of gospel light,  
    Which like the sun enlightens all ;  
While underneath her feet the moon, —  
Pale emblem of mosaic rites, —  
Her footstool was, as when the sun  
Arises in the east he causes

Moon and stars to fade away, so  
 Christ and gospel light were like the sun  
 To banish night and cause the moon,—  
 The Jewish dispensation old,—  
 To yield to His superior light :

And on her head a royal crown  
 Was seen, in which twelve stars like jewels  
 flashed,—

The twelve apostles these, and all  
 Who should, as faithful ministers,  
 Come after them to guide the church,  
 As stars direct the traveller.

2. And she, with child, cried out in pain,  
 And travailed hard in birth for souls,  
 That they true life might find in Christ  
 By being born anew in Him.

3. Another wonder next appeared —  
 A great red dragon, having seven  
 Heads and ten stout horns and seven  
 Crowns upon his heads, a symbol thus  
 Of pagan Rome, who, from her Seven-  
 Hilled-City, forth her edicts sent  
 Against the church, eager as beasts  
 Of prey, to rend and tear all who  
 In love and truth served God alone :—  
 As Herod sought the life of Christ,  
 The Babe of Bethlehem, so this  
 Proud government an engine was,  
 Of Satan, to destroy and vex  
 The growing church of Christ on earth.

4. This mighty kingdom, vast and strong,—  
Which from their kingly thrones had dragged  
One third earth's reigning potentates  
And bound them to her chariot wheels, —  
Brought her great power against our Lord  
And His dear Church, purchased with His  
Own blood on Calvary.

Before  
The church the dragon stood to kill  
5. Her children at their birth:

And she  
Brought forth a manly child, born in  
The image of our Lord and Master, Christ,  
By whom we are begotten to  
A living hope, thro' sovereign grace: —  
This child, so helpless at his birth,  
In God's own time shall rule the world  
With just yet perfect power; while o'er  
The earth his reign shall be most mild  
Toward those who yield obedience true, —  
Those who resist in stubbornness  
An iron rod of strong control  
Shall make them serve the truth they hate!  
Thus right should everywhere prevail,  
For Christ must reign in peace and power;  
As Sin and Satan long had reigned,  
So now the Church should reign o'er Sin,  
While Satan bruised and bleeding at  
Their feet must lie, so soon as God's  
Brave ruler, Constantine, should wear

The crown ; then as the martyrs for  
The gospel's sake had been caught up  
To God and near His throne, so now  
His people were brought near a throne,—  
An earthly throne, where they found rest  
And freedom from their enemies.

Thus vile idolatry, at last,  
Was made to hide its horrid head  
In shame and slink away from sight,  
Prohibited and banished by  
Just laws !

No limitation this,  
Of freedom for all men to seek  
Their God in honesty of heart :—  
The truth that all should worship Him  
Alone, in spirit and in deed,  
Is written on the very sky  
So plainly none need err, and thus  
The civil law, to this extent, —  
May urge the duty, far and wide,  
To worship God in every way  
And place and time where it is meet.\*  
No "liberty of conscience" can  
Releive a people from the call  
To worship Him by Whom the heavens  
And earth were made and now upheld !  
'Twas then the church had rest and joy,  
And worshiped God and His dear Son,

\* See Mass. "Bill of Rights," which recognizes the duty of  
worshipping God in all suitable ways and places.



With none to harm or make afraid,  
And so the saints were multiplied.

And yet, alas ! this reign of peace  
And rest was used by wicked men  
T' entice God's people into sin,  
By errors subtle, gross, and vile,  
And fatal as some poisoned cup !

Christ's once fair, faithful Bride had turned  
From Him to court the love of this  
Vain world, and so entranced did she  
Become by all this peace and power  
And wealth conferred on her of God,  
That she forgot the Giver in  
The gift and turned to fables and  
To lies, and so, in time, like those  
Old pagan persecutors, she  
Began to persecute within  
Her fold all who kept truth, and loved  
The same, as plainly taught in God's  
Own word.

This opposition, hard  
To bear, yea fierce and savage as  
Its author Satan, caused the flight  
6. Of those who held the truth, from those  
Who madly sought their lives,  
Into the "wilderness"— the wild  
And rugged Alpine vales and mounts,  
Where they might worship God and His  
Dear Son, and read, obey, and teach  
The truth, as in His word revealed, —

Into those mountain fastnesses  
Where God prepared for them a place,  
And where they should be kept and fed,  
E'en till the long prophetic time  
In which the papal power doth rule  
Shall end:

'Tis here amidst the grand  
Old Alps, whose hoary heads reach up  
Toward heaven, as if to beckon men  
To seek the skies, they still serve God,  
And every morning when the light  
Falls softly over mount and vale,  
The voice of praise and prayer is heard;  
And when the curtains of the night  
Are drawn, again the notes of praise  
To God resound o'er hills and plains,  
Like sweetest incense, costly, rare,  
Ascending unto Him who hears  
And treasures every note of praise,  
And gathers every tear and prayer;—  
And, in His golden vials stored,  
He waits until the earth is ripe,  
To answer prayer and pour out all  
His wrath on those who vex His church!

7. But list, not till old Rome shall cease  
To curse the world must Christ's church wait—  
An earnest of that golden age  
He gives to them! A war breaks out  
In heaven,—that is, within the church—  
Our Lord and Leader, Michael, and

His angels fight the errors of  
The papal church. A LUTHER is  
Of God raised up for this great war  
Against the dragon and his host.

8. The vict'ry in this strife was given  
To those who fought for God and truth,  
For Satan could not stem the tide  
Of light, and truth, and power, which turned  
Their sure and deadly aim toward Rome!  
The weapons forged against the truth  
Prevailed not, but were wrested from  
Rome's bloody hands and turned against  
The men who hurled these poisoned darts,  
Till no more place was found for them,  
Within the portals of the church!

In kingdoms vast the gospel light  
Once more in brightest fulness shone,  
While everywhere the papal power  
Was tottering like a falling wall!

9. 'Twas thus the dragon was cast out, —  
The old and subtle serpent, truly called  
By all in heaven and earth, Satan  
And Devil, Arch Destroyer, he,  
In every age and clime on earth, —  
Swift from the church was cast and all  
His fallen angels with him too  
Were headlong hurled down to the earth —  
The papal earth, — those nations which  
Refused the Reformation's light, —  
To France, and Spain, and Italy,

And all those states bound in the chains  
Of abject slavery to Rome, —

To these was Satan madly sent !

10. And from the church, true type of heaven,  
I heard a voice, proclaiming loud :

“ Now is salvation come to us,  
The kingdom of our God and Christ,  
In strength and power has come, in truth,  
For he, the accuser of the saints,  
Of our beloved brethren in the Lord,  
Accusing them before our God,  
Both day and night with ceaseless rage,  
Is now cast down through God's great  
power !

11. And thro' the blood of Christ the Lamb,  
And by their testimony true,  
They overcame the wicked one,  
Neither did love their lives more than  
The truth, but freely laid themselves upon  
God's altar, and with songs and prayers  
Ascended to their God in peace, —  
A sacrifice most pure and meet.

12. Therefore rejoice, ye Heavens above,  
And all who dwell therein ! But woe  
To those inhabitants who dwell  
On land or sea where Rome holds sway,  
For down to you proud Satan falls,  
In hellish wrath, for he doth know  
His reign on earth is short indeed !

13. And when the Devil saw that he

Was cast down to the papal earth,  
He kindled fierce again the fires  
Of persecution 'gainst the church :  
In France the sacred edict was  
Revoked, which shielded them from harm ; —  
Bartholomew's foul massacre  
Took place, and soon that land with bold  
And bloody men was filled, who in  
Their work of plunder and of death  
Did gloat ; blood flowed like water in  
Fair France, and soon the cry was raised  
In Holland, England, Belgium,

“ Down with the Protestants ! Long live

The pope ! Long live the church of Rome ! ”

The order of the Jesuits was formed,  
As body guard to Rome's proud head,  
To serve him unto death in all  
That he might ask or plan ; and thus,  
By compassing both sea and land,  
From frigid zones to tropic skies,  
By subtly mingling with all men,  
By midnight vigils,— study, care,  
By secret oaths and subtle plans,  
They sought to stay the waning power  
Of papal Rome throughout the world.  
O'er every government they claimed  
The right, kingdoms and kings to rule,  
As had the pope for ages ruled :  
But in the Reformation's growing power  
And dawning light, these kings refused

To bow the knee to this poor man  
In temporal matters, and thus oft  
Resistance to his unjust claim  
By kings and potentates was made.

14. But now the time had fully come  
For Christ to show his mighty power,  
His love and wisdom toward His saints.

Therefore to His own church were given  
Two wings, as of an eagle great,  
To bear it far from Satan's face,  
To "her own place", reserved of God  
For His own church since time began !

To fair AMERICA the Puritans  
And Pilgrims fled. A "Wilderness"  
Indeed 'twas then; 'mongst savage tribes  
And forests dense they made their home;  
And yet 'twas far from Satan's power,  
Where they could worship God in peace.  
'Twas here, away from all those rites  
And ceremonies vain, which come  
Between the soul and God, and turned  
Men back toward Rome, they fled.

Here on this western continent,  
'Midst prayers, and tears, and patient toil,  
They laid the solid base of liberty  
For church and state. And here until  
The final overthrow of Rome  
And every anti-christian power,  
They shall be nourished by their Lord !  
Land "shadowing with wings," with strong,

Protecting eagle's wings, all hail !

Here hath the church found rest indeed ;  
This be thy name as heaven ordained,  
" Her place ", — the home of all the saints,  
Asylum fair for all oppressed,  
From every land and every clime !

In vain has Rome desired thee ;

Again and yet again our God

Hath said to this proud, subtle foe,

" Thus and no further shalt thou come,  
And here thy wrathful waves must stay,  
For true is my decree that this

Fair land shall be ' Her place ' and mine ! "

15. The serpent, when he saw that she  
Had fled and 'scaped his hateful power,  
Out from his hellish mouth a flood  
Of water cast, by which he hoped  
To overwhelm and drown the church ; —  
By papal emigration, in

One broad and constant stream, he seeks  
To conquer, even here, the church !

16. But lo ! " The earth ", — the civil power,  
Now helps the woman in her need,  
By opening wide its mighty mouth  
And drinking up the fatal flood !

Her many institutions, laws  
And schools — as free as heaven's air —  
Absorb and neutralize this flood.

17. And now the dragon, full of wrath,  
Direct attack resolves to make

---

Upon the woman; and by bulls,  
Encyclicals and subtle plans,  
Rome madly strikes the public schools,  
Denouncing them as "Godless, vile,  
And full of harm to every child!"  
By threats of everlasting woe,  
She forces blinded parents to  
Withdraw their children from these schools,  
Where truth and liberty are taught,  
That she may hold them still within  
Her deadly grasp, and keep them in  
Subjection to her fatal power!

'Tis thus, e'en while we write, she wars  
Against the children of the Puritans  
Who keep God's laws inviolate.



## CHAPTER XIII.

## THE TWO BEASTS — PAGAN AND PAPAL ROME.

Still another and more definite view of the supremacy of pagan and papal Rome is brought before us under the figures of fierce, wild beasts of prey. The first beast represents pagan and imperial Rome, while the second beast represents the papal power, both secular and spiritual, which gave life to the former beast and which virtually prolonged the imperial, persecuting spirit of pagan Rome under the disguise of Christianity.

1. Upon the ocean's shore I stood  
And saw a beast arise up from  
The troubled sea,— of people's tongues  
And tribes,— with seven heads,—  
Seven forms of government, by which  
The seven-hilled-city, Rome, had ruled  
The world :— Ten horns this beast possessed  
And on each horn a kingly crown,—  
Symbolic of the kingdoms ten  
Which ruled in place of ancient Rome.  
Names full of blasphemy were seen  
On each head of this pagan beast ;—  
For ages God's great name had been  
Blasphemed by idol rites, and by  
The worship claimed from emperors,—  
Homage which only God can claim !

2. With the leopard's subtle form, this beast  
Had feet and cruel claws like to  
A bear, and with a mouth to roar  
And rend its prey as terrible  
As lions have; — and to this beast  
The devil gave his power and throne.

3. One of his heads, or forms of power,  
Received what seemed a deadly wound,  
Inflicted by those northern hordes,  
Which overran and conquered Rome,  
And for a time her reign was o'er;  
But by the rising papal power  
This "deadly wound" was healed, and thus  
Both church and state increased in strength,  
Until the whole world wondered at  
Their mutual power and sway on earth!

4. And so, in haste, a grovelling world  
Its homage pays to Satan's power, —  
That power behind the church and throne:  
These Kingdoms, strong by papal power,  
They also worshiped, and they cried:

"Who, who is like the beast, and who  
Is able to make war with him?"

5. And unto him was given a mouth,  
A bold, blasphemous mouth against  
The God of heaven, and His dear Son.  
And power to him was given  
For forty-two prophetic months; —  
Twelve hundred years and sixty—he  
Should rule and war against the truth;

And at the end of that long reign  
Shall be destroyed with papal Rome,  
And purer governments arise !  
6. And his vile mouth he opened wide —  
This *papal* "*beast*," within these states —  
In blasphemies against our God  
And His own church redeemed by blood ;

7. And unto him 'twas given fierce war  
Against the saints to wage, and to  
O'ercome them and have power o'er all  
The kings and kingdoms of the world !

8. And all who dwell upon the earth,  
Whose names are not within the Lamb's  
Own Book of Life, shall worship him.

And now let those who hear and love  
The truth indeed, give patient ear ; —

10. He who into captivity  
So long hath led the sons of men  
Shall into final bondage go !  
As he hath done to others, so  
To him it shall be done ! Dismayed,  
Defeated, captured, he, the chains  
Which others wore, must wear ;  
He who by needless, cruel wars  
Killed others, shall himself be killed ;  
For those who long have groaned and prayed,  
And hoped to break his power, at last,  
Of heaven, are given strength to burst  
The bands of these same Kingdoms ten,  
And forever free the people from

The pomp and greed of tyranny !  
 Here doth the faith and patience of  
 The saints and statesmen safely rest.  
 11. And I beheld another beast ; —  
 As up from out the earth he came, —  
 Not as the former beast who sprang  
 From 'neath the troubled sea — that is  
 The troublous times of war, when o'er  
 The land the Northmen poured, until  
 Rome's tottering throne was glad of help  
 From pope and church to save her crown —  
 But from the solid earth he came —  
 The favoring soil of unbelief, —  
 From men who fain believe a lie  
 If but presented in smooth words,  
 Which soothe and flatter human pride.

This second beast had two marked horns  
 Of power and strength, denoting both  
 His temporal and his churchly power,  
 And yet in outward semblance seemed  
 To be the harmless horns of some  
 Mild lamb, to thus deceive the world.  
 And yet his speech betrayed the source  
 Of all his strength, for in its rites  
 And power, the Devil's subtle plans  
 To ruin men, is ever seen.

12. And all of that vast power, the first  
 Beast e'er possessed and used on earth,  
 This second beast secured, until  
 The earth and all who dwelt therein

Are made to worship and to serve  
The first beast, or Rome's civil power,  
And thus is healed its "deadly wound ;"

13. And doeth "wonders great," so that  
From Heaven above fire seems to fall,  
In sight of superstitious men :

14. He thus deceived all men who dwell  
On earth, by miracles, so-called,  
Which he had skill to do in sight  
Of gaping multitudes, and then  
Commanded that the people make  
An image of, and for the beast,  
Which had the sword-wound, yet still lived.

15. And this same hierarchy had  
The power to give life to their pope,  
Who was, in pomp and tyranny,  
An image true of pagan Rome ;  
And to this image power was given  
To speak with great authority,  
And cause that all who worshiped not  
Himself, should without mercy die !

16. And on all, both poor and rich, both small  
And great, both bond and free, he placed  
A mark of servile bondage to  
Himself, in hand or forehead plain ;

17. And all men he forbade to buy  
Or sell, unless they had the mark,  
The name, and number of this beast.

18. And here is wisdom, — let the man  
Who understanding hath, count well

---

The number of the beast, for is  
It not the number of a man?  
And this same number, heed it well,—  
“Is six hundred and sixty-six.”  
As letters stand for numbers,  
In Greek and Latin languages,  
This sentence reads “LATEINOS” in  
The Greek, denoting thus that Rome,  
Proud, papal Rome, “the Latin power,”  
Is this same fierce and subtle beast!

## CHAPTER XIV.

## THE HARVESTS GATHERED.

This chapter opens with a most encouraging view of the light of reformation which breaks upon the world after the darkness of the middle ages. With the sixteenth century began the great Reformation, led on by the intrepid and faithful Luther, resulting in the conversion of a vast multitude of souls, who are described as standing on Mount Zion, praising God. As light broke in upon pagan Rome in the days of Constantine, so in this next great reformation, light again asserts its sway over the darkness of error and sin. Then follows the prediction concerning the preaching of the gospel throughout the world, which has specially been fulfilled during the past century. Next follows the bold attack on papal superstitions and political trickery and the efforts to convert Romanists from the error of their ways. These predictions have received, and at the present time are still receiving, a remarkable fulfillment.

The chapter closes by the triumphant movement of Christ and his followers to the final and successful conflict with the combined anti-Christian powers. This conflict will evidently be by political as well as moral agencies. All the friends of civil and religious liberty, throughout the world, will unite against Rome and her confederate allies of oppression and darkness.

1. And as I looked again, lo ! on  
Mount Zion, emblem of the church  
Of Christ, I saw the Lamb of God,  
Most glorious in grace and might, —  
And with him all his faithful saints,  
Who on their foreheads wear the name  
Of God, for not ashamed are they

To own their God and His dear Son.

2. Then sweetly, loudly, on the air,  
Like ocean's grand, majestic roar,  
The voices of the saints I heard,  
And harpers harping with their harps : —

3. A grand new song they sung, —  
Before the throne, Christ's precious blood —  
A sweet, "new song" for that dark age —  
But none could understand this song,  
Save those redeemed thro' Christ from sin.

4. These holy, happy souls were not  
Defiled by yielding to the wiles  
Of papal Rome, and serving divers lusts ;  
They courted not the favor of  
The rich, the proud and vile, who hate  
The word of God, but with a chaste  
And virgin purity, they serve  
Their God, and follow Christ, the Lamb,  
Wherever He doth lead —and yet  
These favored ones came not from heaven,  
But were redeemed among the sons,  
The sinful sons, of men on earth.

Yet these are only first-fruits of  
The harvest great, which Christ must have  
When truth shall fully reign on earth !

5. And in their mouth no guile was found ;  
Not like the false, deceitful souls,  
Who heed the lying vanities of Rome,—  
But sincere, honest, truthful men ;  
And thus no sinful, fatal faults,



Had they, to bar them out of heaven,  
For God who judgeth all men from  
His throne, pronounced them justified,  
Accepted, saved, and sanctified  
In Christ and His abounding grace.

'Thus did the Reformation true,  
And great, break forth in Germany,  
Led on by Luther, brave, sincere,  
A chosen vessel of our God,—  
Raised up of heaven for this same work.

6. Then soon I saw an angel fly—  
Like some majestic bird, swift-winged,  
High in the heavens, as when a bird  
Of passage seeks another clime—

The everlasting gospel to  
Proclaim to all who dwell on earth,  
To every nation, tongue and clime!

7. And with a clear, resounding voice—  
“Fear God, and worship Him who made  
The heaven, and earth, and sea, and all  
The springs, and sources of the seas;  
Nor longer worship idols dumb,  
Which cannot breathe, or see, or walk,—

For God's great judgment-hour has come  
To test and sift the nations of the earth,  
Destroying superstition's reign  
Throughout the world, so that the souls  
Now held in chains of darkness, by  
The fierce and subtle powers of hell,  
May know the truth which makes men free.”

Thus by the preaching of the word,  
By tongue, and printed page, e'en now,  
The gospel, like the light of day,  
Is going forth to bless the world !

8. There followed next an angel bold,  
A faithful messenger of light,  
To show that preaching of the Word  
Was overcoming Rome, thro' God ; —  
He cried that Babylon had fallen ; —  
Like Babylon of old, her cup  
Of wrath was full, because, like that  
Old city, she had cherished rites  
And forms of pagan birth, and so  
Just judgment soon would come to her,  
For making all the nations drink  
Of these same errors, as of wine,  
Till they were poor and drunken all !

9. Then followed soon the angel third, —  
With loud, commanding voice he cried, —  
“ If any man dare worship Rome,  
This foul and cruel beast of prey,  
Or worship this proud image of  
Old pagan Rome — the papal church —  
Or wear her mark of ownership

10. On forehead or on hand, the same  
Shall drink the wine of God's just wrath,  
Poured, without mixture, from His cup —  
His cup of indignation fierce ;  
And be tormented in the flames  
Of scorn, contempt, and pain, both in

This world and that to come, where Christ  
And angels witness their despair !

11. The smoke of their tormenting pains  
Shall ascend high forevermore,  
And day and night they find no rest,  
Because o'erwhelmed with shame and woe !  
Thus shall it be with all who bow  
In worship at Rome's priestly shrines,  
Or wear the slavish, papal mark : " —

12. Here is the patience of the saints,  
And here are those who cheerfully  
Obey God's just commands, with faith  
In Jesus, and His pardoning grace ;  
For this great Reformation is  
But dawning light, and we must wait  
In patience for the perfect day  
When Rome shall be fore'er destroyed,  
And gospel light fill all the world.

13. Again a heavenly voice I heard  
From out the church of Christ proclaim,  
" Write, blessed are the dead who die  
With faith in Jesus' blood, henceforth,  
Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may  
From all their labors rest, and not  
As Rome hath taught, in anguish howl  
In purgatorial fires both fierce  
And long, but know in truth that they  
At death depart at once to be  
With Christ, where they shall eat the fruits  
Of sovereign grace, and works of faith ; " —

Thus do we also die to works,  
 And rest alone in Jesus' blood.  
 Since Luther's day this glorious truth  
 Has sweetly, widely been proclaimed,  
 And shall be till the world doth end!  
 Their works shall "follow" them to bless,—  
 (Not to precede and open Heaven,  
 For by the law no soul is saved)  
 And modify God's gifts of grace;  
 And so their toils, and tears, and death  
 Shall surely gain reward in heaven,—  
 And yet rewards of grace thro' Christ,  
 And not as legal recompense  
 For any deeds which they have done.

14. When lo! at length, I looked again  
 One like the glorious Son of Man,  
 With golden crown and sickle sharp;—  
 Upon a white and dazzling cloud  
 He sat—the cloud of witnesses,  
 Who join Him in this harvest work.

15. Another angel messenger  
 Came forth from God's own faithful Church,  
 And loudly cried to Him who sat  
 Upon the cloud, with sickle sharp,  
 To quickly thrust His sickle in  
 And reap, "For now," cried he, "the time  
 Hath come, yea fully come to reap;  
 The truth so long and richly sown  
 Hath borne its fruitage, and at last  
 Earth's golden harvest now is ripe!"

16. This prayer was heard, and He who sat  
Upon the cloud so white, thrust in  
His sickle, and both near and far  
The sheaves of grace were gathered in;—

    All o'er the earth, much precious grain  
    Was found, and sinful souls were soon

    Rejoicing in the Lord, and in His love;  
And harvest songs of praise and joy  
Ascended from the Church to Heaven.

17. And now when many million souls  
Were garnered safe within the church,  
Another messenger was sent,—  
He also having sickle sharp,—  
To do high Heaven's gracious will.

18. Another angel then came forth  
From God's own altar where His Son  
A sacrifice once laid, and where  
His people pledge their loyalty to Him,  
And to His truth, as taught by Christ;—  
Power over fiery judgments had  
This messenger, and thus in tones,  
Distinct and loud, he cried to Him  
Who stood and held the sickle sharp,—

    "Thrust in, and gather from earth's vine

    The heavy clusters, for her grapes

19. Are fully ripe!" Then quickly were  
These words obeyed, and Rome's sour grapes  
And all the fruitage of the earth  
Opposed to God and His true Church,  
Were reaped and cast into the great

---

Wine-press of God's fierce wrath, where they  
20. Are trodden till the blood of men  
Comes from the wine-press in a flood,—  
Till high as horses' bridles are,  
And broad as were the papal states  
Of Italy, this sea of blood  
Extends, both far and wide, on earth !  
Thus shall thine enemies, oh, Lord,  
Be utterly destroyed ! Amen !

## CHAPTER XV.

## THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES.

This chapter introduces us to the seven last plagues which are to entirely destroy the power of Rome in the world. The period thus covered is synchronal with the events predicted in the last chapter (viz.) from the time of the Reformation in the sixteenth century, until the beginning of the Millennium. But before the predictions concerning the last plagues, the Spirit again gives us a glimpse of the Reformation and its glorious results.

1. Another sign in Heaven I saw,  
Yea, great and wondrous was this sign,  
Portending woe and death to Rome!  
Seven messengers of wrath I saw,  
Who held in their great power the seven  
Last plagues, in which the final wrath
2. Of God toward Rome is stored.

A sea

Of glass I also saw mingled  
With fire; God's holy government,  
So broad, and pure, and calm, and yet  
So just and terrible toward all  
His foes, who soon must feel the fire  
Of righteous indignation, and  
Of wrath!

Standing upon this sea

Of glass, I saw those holy men,  
Who victory had gained thro' Christ,  
O'er Rome, o'er pope, and priest, and  
church ;

And in their hands were held the harps  
Of God, with which to celebrate  
His praise ; — in loud and sweetest strains

3. They sing the Song of Moses and  
The Lamb, thus law and grace we hear  
Extolled, as with one voice they cry,  
“Both great and marvelous Thy works,  
Lord God, Almighty ; just and true  
Are all thy ways, Thou King of Saints !

4. Who will not fear and glorify  
Thy blessed name, for Thou alone  
Art holy, and all climes shall come  
And worship Thee, for all Thy pure  
And righteous judgments are revealed,  
And manifested unto men.”

5. And, as I gazed, the temple — God's  
Own Tabernacle, His faithful church  
Of testimony — opened, and

6. His seven messengers came forth  
From out the church to execute  
God's wrath, in answer to the prayers  
And plaints of His long-suffering church ;  
In linen, pure and white, were clothed  
These messengers, while round their breasts  
They wore a golden girdle bright.

7. Then one of those four creatures, grand,



True symbols of God's government,  
Gave to these faithful angels, seven  
Golden vials which were filled with  
God's fierce wrath, who never dies, but  
Ever liveth, His wilful foes  
To punish, and His church to bless.

8. The temple now was filled with smoke,  
Like burning incense, and God's name  
Was loud extolled by saints on earth,  
Because His power was thus displayed !  
Neither could saint nor sinner stay  
His mighty hand outstretched in wrath  
Against the enemies of truth :—

Had all the saints on earth, with fear  
Cried out to God to stay these plagues  
He would not listen to their prayers ;  
The time had fully come, for heaven  
To pour upon the church of Rome  
The fierceness of His holy wrath !

## CHAPTER XVI.

### GOD'S WRATH POURED OUT ON PAPAL ROME.

This chapter describes the pouring out the contents of God's wrath from the seven vials, and the great revolutions and judgments which followed.

The pouring out of the first vial, without reasonable doubt, refers to the revelation of the corruptions of Rome at the beginning of the French Revolution; and the explanation of the next vials is found in the history of Europe in its relation to the papacy succeeding the first vial.

The application and fulfillment of these predictions are given in the paraphrase. It is needless to review all the reasons for these explanations; there have been no series of historical events, which so completely fit and agree with this portion of Revelation as those referred to.

At last the time has fully come  
 When those successive blows must fall  
 In final vengeance on proud Rome.  
 1. A loud, commanding voice I heard  
 From heaven in answer to the prayers  
 Of Christ's long-suffering Church, which cried  
 To those appointed Angels seven :—  
     "Go on your ways, and pour out from  
     Those seven golden vials, which  
     Contain the fearful wrath of God,—  
 In which the prayers of suffering saints  
 Are also stored, upon the earth —  
 The guilty, papal portions of

The globe — pour out God's judgments just !”

2. The first wrath-vial then was poured  
Upon the proud and stubborn church —  
Who, like proud Pharaoh, ne'er will yield  
Until she sinks beneath the waves  
Of God's o'erwhelming wrath and power !

The first plague now by Rome is felt ; —  
A noisome, grievous sore breaks out  
Upon the men who bear the mark  
Of this foul beast — of pope and church —  
Like loathsome boils which on those old  
Egyptians came, these plague-spots proved  
That God designed to show the world  
His hatred and contempt for all  
The pride and pomp of sensual Rome :  
The deadly virus in the veins  
Of those who drank her errors in,  
Which she had taught them, now appeared  
In open words and deeds of sin !  
The social and the moral world was  
Filled with unbelief and vice ;  
    Corrupting sores of violence,  
    Of fraud and dissipations wild,  
    On every hand were seen, instead  
    Of faith and prayer and purity : —  
Men wallowed in the mire and filth  
Of every form of unbelief : —  
The wild reaction from the hard  
And grinding superstitions of  
The papal church was to reject

All forms of faith or creed, —  
 Until men boasted that this life  
 Was only one short carnival of lust,  
 Of greed and selfish joy and then,  
 When death should come, it ended all,  
 And was a sweet and dreamless sleep !

Thus were the ties which bound men to  
 This harlot-church most rudely torn  
 And broken, till in France a fierce  
 And bloody revolution shook  
 The land ; and in the place of blind  
 Devotion to the church these men  
 Proclaimed, both far and wide, that Rome's  
     Professions and pretentious claims  
     Were all a roaring farce, unfit  
     For men of thought to follow or  
     Obey ; and thus the children of  
 The papal church rebelled and held  
 Their harlot mother up to scorn,  
 And shame and loud contempt, while France —  
 Whose King was fondly called the Son,  
 "The eldest, right-hand son, of Rome,"  
 Was first in this aggressive war.  
 Yet in the stead of papal lies  
 Concerning private judgments, true,  
 They flew far to the other side,  
 And loudly boasted of free thought;  
 And like an epidemic spread  
 Their views to other lands, until  
 The Harlot on the Tiber was

Despised by men of culture and  
Of thought, as all the festering sores  
And foul corruptions of this church,  
Were by these sceptics wide revealed.

Thus was the way prepared for that  
Great revolution which was felt  
Throughout the world against all forms  
Of superstitious tyranny

And pride ; and yet so Godless were  
The leaders in this war against  
Th' oppressions of proud Kings and of  
The rich against the suffering poor,  
The truth was made to suffer in  
This wild and reckless war.

'Twas then

3. The second Angel poured out wrath  
Upon the sea, and it became,  
Through naval wars, prolonged and fierce,  
Red with the blood of thousands slain !  
On France and Spain and Portugal  
God's heavy hand, in wrath, was laid,  
And their proud navies, which the world  
Had long admired and praised, were now  
Defeated, humbled, and well-nigh  
Destroyed by English ships of war —  
England, God's chosen sword of  
Strength to thus destroy the papal power.  
And as the first vial was poured  
Upon the earth, or continent,  
This second vial carried woe

To Rome's vast naval fleets, until  
Their power for war was well-nigh gone.

In all the world's long history  
Ne'er has there been a naval war  
So vast, so fierce and so prolonged !

4. The third Angel his vial poured  
Upon those papal rivers and  
Their fountain sources, whence had risen  
For ages past Rome's mighty power ;  
In this fierce reign of terror, wide,  
Fair Italy was next compelled  
To share a bloody part, and on  
The Rhine, and Po, and Alpine streams  
Of Lombardy and Piedmont, wild,  
Fierce battles raged till papal blood  
Ran down, in streams, the Alpine paths,  
Where martyrs' blood so long had run —  
Waldenses, Albigenses here,  
Had for long ages shed their blood.

5. 'Twas fitting that the Angel who  
Presided o'er the waters should,  
With grateful spirit, cry : " Righteous  
Art Thou, oh, Lord, who art and wast  
And shalt be, for Thy judgments just ;

6. For have not these Thy foes oft shed  
The blood of saints and prophets who  
Have lived and died on this same soil ? —

And now to them Thy cup is turned  
And blood they too are made to drink,  
For they are worthy of Thy wrath ! "

7. E'en from the altar where the Son  
Of God a sacrifice was slain,  
And where the souls of martyred saints  
Repose in peace thro' saving grace,  
I heard another voice exclaim :—

“ E'en so, Lord God, Almighty, let  
It be, for true and righteous are  
Thy judgments on those bloody men  
Who killed Thy saints in ages past.”

8. The fourth Angel his vial poured  
Upon the sun, the King of Day,  
An emblem true of Emperors  
And mighty kings, who rule on earth ;  
And to this King the power was given,  
To scorch and burn with torrid heat  
Those countries where the papal church  
Held sway ; thus God prepared the way  
By Napoleonic wars for that  
Dire woe which fell upon the seat  
And centre of the papal power.

Like Jehu, of old Jewish fame,  
Napoleon Bonaparte was raised  
Of God for this same cause, a sword  
In God's strong hand to punish those  
Who had perverted truth and filled  
All Europe with their sorceries,  
Idolatries and lies, until  
Oppressions deep and long, in church  
And state cried out to heaven for wrath !

9. And men were scorched and burned with heat

Which fell upon them from the sun,  
 Until the Holy name of God  
 And this same King they cursed, because  
 These fiery plagues were brought on them.  
 And yet like Pharaoh with his hard,  
 And stubborn heart, they would not hear  
 The rod nor Him who handled it,  
 But grovelled still in pride and sin.

10. 'Twas then the fifth Angel poured out  
 His wrath upon the very seat  
 And throne of this foul beast, until  
 Confusion, death and darkness reigned —  
 Till pope and prelate, priest and nun,  
 All gnawed their tongues in grief and pain!

The arms of strong, victorious France,  
 Led on by bold Napoleon,  
 Had conquered Northern Italy,  
 And now were thundering at the Gates  
 Of Rome, where soon they enter, and  
 The aged pope is forced to fly  
 To Tuscany, to Leghorn, then  
 To scale the Alps and Appenines,  
 Those frozen heights — which he had oft  
 God's servants true compelled to climb,—  
 He now must climb, by night and day,  
 Till weary, sore, and sick he breathed  
 His last and went to his reward!

11. And still repentance followed not;—  
 Instead of penitence and tears,  
 Were heard complaints and murmurs deep



Toward God because of these great plagues.

12. The sixth Angel his vial poured  
Upon Euphrates' broad and mighty stream,  
And caused its waters to dry up,  
And thus prepare the way for Kings  
And kingdoms in the east to come  
To Christ and gospel light, for this  
Foul, Turkish power still stands between  
These kingdoms and the truth, and so  
Mohammed's strong delusions, like  
A mighty river, must abate  
Before the gospel light, in rich  
And full effulgence, can dispel  
The night of darkness in the east.

Yea; soon the day will come when truth  
Shall conquer all these ancient lands,  
So long enthralled in sin and woe;—  
These lands so dear to Christian hearts,  
Where once the holy patriarchs  
And prophets and apostles dwelt,  
And preached, and wept, and died, for God,  
Shall soon again Immanuel's land  
Become, no more to turn from Him!

Yet just before that glorious day

13. Shall dawn, three unclean spirits, like  
Three filthy frogs, with croakings loud,  
From out the mouths of dragon, beast,  
And prophet false, shall subtly come,—  
Mohammedan and papist, pagan, all,  
Like Pilate and old Herod, who

From enemies became fast friends  
When Jesus each would crucify ;  
So these three powers confederate  
Become in this last conflict 'gainst  
Our Lord and His own church — against  
All liberty in church or State.

14. Three filthy spirits — devils all —  
Pretended miracles do work,  
And with their false pretensions forth  
To all the Kings of earth, throughout  
The whole wide world they go, to move  
The enemies of truth to war,  
And thus they gather them as one  
To that great battle of our God,  
When he shall conquer all His foes

Who subtly plot against the truth : —

15. “ As suddenly as stealthy thief  
I come ” saith God, “ and blessed is  
The watchful land, and praying soul,  
Prepared for this great day of wrath,  
Which shall so suddenly appear, —  
Not like the man who lays aside

His garments and retires to rest,

But suddenly awakes to find

Himself in poverty and shame, —

But rather like the wiser man

Who quick discerns the warning signs,

And so he saves himself, and saves

The land he loves, from fatal war ! ”

16. And to a place God gathered them, —

Har-Megiddo, the Hebrew name,  
Or "Mountain of Megiddo", where  
Of old the Israelites oft gained  
Decisive victories for God,  
And his own church; a symbol this  
Of that great final victory,  
Which God will soon his people give  
O'er all the enemies of Christ,  
    When every earthly power which hates  
    The onward march of light and truth,  
    Of civil and religious rights,  
    Shall sink forever in the sea  
    Of deep oblivion and shame!

17. For soon the seventh Angel pours  
His vial in the air, or in  
The minds and hearts of all who love  
True liberty of thought and speech,  
Until, like clouds surcharged with rain,  
And winds and lightning's mighty power,  
Vengeance pours down upon the hosts —  
The three-fold, allied hosts of hell —  
O'erwhelming them in shame and woe!

    Then rang out, clear and loud, a voice  
From Christ's triumphant church, which came  
Through them from God's great throne: "'Tis  
    done —

    The victory our God has gained,  
    And we are saved from all our foes!"

18. And there were voices, thunders loud,  
And lightnings sharp and vengeful as

They fell upon the guilty heads  
 Of those old enemies of God  
 And His true church! They could not stand  
 Before the words thus voiced and urged;  
 Their opposition to all truth  
 And freedom, evermore received  
 Its just award of honest scorn!  
 And soon a mighty earthquake, such  
 As ne'er was known before, convulsed  
 The earth, for, far and wide, all men,  
     Who love true liberty, uprose  
     And boldly stood upon their feet  
     In protest strong, united, and  
     All-powerful 'gainst these hellish foes!  
 19. 'Twas then Rome's city fell apart,  
 Divided as it was into  
 Three portions, one part turning toward  
 The light, forsaking Rome's mad rule,  
 Another part still clinging to  
 The papal church with weakened zeal,  
 But utterly renouncing her  
 Proud claims to temporal power,  
 The third part clinging still to all  
 The errors of old Rome with blind  
     And senseless zeal; —'tis thus the beast  
     Becomes a weakened power before  
     Her firm united foes, and soon  
     The cities of those nations which  
     Had given their support to Rome,  
     Like crash of falling buildings, turn

Away from Rome's fast crumbling powers.  
'Tis now, like Babylon of old,  
That Rome shall be remembered by  
Our God, and He will press to her  
Proud lips the fierceness of His wrath, —  
More bitter than the cup of woe  
Which she so long has forced God's saints  
20. To drink.

And every island fled  
Away from her control, where she,  
For many ages seated on  
Her throne, hath ruled; far, far away  
From her they fled, and no more were  
They found to worship at her shrine!  
21. And on the abject slaves of Rome  
There fell a hail, down from the heavens—  
Or from the church, fair type of heaven,—  
A hail, both terrible and great,—  
For ev'ry soul redeemed of God,  
Hath some great truth to hurl at Rome,—  
Till pelted, bruised and sore, men howl  
And blaspheme God because this hail,  
So great, tormenting is to them,  
And overwhelms them by its power!

## CHAPTER XVII.

### PARTIAL DESTRUCTION OF ROME'S TEMPORAL POWER.

A further, and in detail a more definite, description is here given of the destruction of Rome's "temporal power."

No great anti-Christian power has ever existed which so plainly and completely fulfills these prophecies as the papal church.

The attempt to apply these predictions to any other system of error, or of persecution, is only a fatal wresting of this book, and may well cause its author to fear the infliction of those plagues threatened against all, who, add to, or take from, the import of these inspired words.

This chapter contains the prediction of the mutual support which European Kingdoms will give to the papacy until a certain time when these same Kingdoms will turn against Rome's so-called "temporal power," and will burn her with the fierce flames of scorn, and political and military opposition.

1. One of the seven angels came  
To me and said, "Come hither, and  
More fully I will show to thee  
The final judgment of the whore  
So great, who on the waters sits —  
And rules o'er many servile lands ;
2. And with whom earth's proud kings have oft  
Committed fornications vile,  
By yielding to her base control,  
In church, and state ; yea, also all  
The peoples of the earth have been

Made drunk by tempting wine, pressed to  
Their lips by this vile harlot bold,—  
Forsaking God, Rome's will to serve.

3. Then by the angel was I borne,  
In the Spirit, to the wilderness,  
And there I saw this harlot sit  
Upon a scarlet-colored beast —  
An emblem of those kingdoms ten,  
Controlled by Rome — on which she rode ;  
And by her temporal power claimed right  
To rule o'er all the governments  
Of men ! This papal beast was full  
Of names of blasphemy, which called  
For honor, praise, and power, which God  
Alone can claim, and like the old,  
Imperial beast of pagan Rome —  
Of which it was, an "image" true ; —  
Seven heads had he, denoting seven  
Hills, on which Rome rests, and seven forms  
Of government by which it has  
Been ruled ; — and ten stout horns this beast

4. Possessed, denoting kingdoms ten,  
Which, with one heart, were joined to Rome : —  
This woman richly was arrayed  
In purple and in scarlet robes —  
The well-known robes of kings and popes —  
With gold, and pearls, and precious stones  
Bedecked ; and in her hand she held  
A golden cup, containing — though  
So rich and fair to look upon,

The vile abomination of  
Her filthy fornications, oft,  
With all the kings and kingdoms of the earth !

5. But on her forehead was her name  
Proclaimed in letters plain as were  
The sins of Sodom, seen of old  
Upon the faces of her sons —

“Mystery, Babylon the Great,  
Mother of harlots, and of earth’s

6. Abominations vile !”

I saw

This woman drunken with the blood  
Of saints and martyrs, age on age !  
With wonder great I marveled at  
This woman, in such robes of wealth

7. And regal power :

The angel spake.

“Why didst thou marvel ? I will tell  
The mystery of her career,—  
And of the beast on which she rides,  
With seven heads, and ten stout horns :—

8. The beast thou sawest, was and is  
Not ; he arises from the pit,  
Called ‘bottomless,’ and down to hell  
Must go, and all shall wonder at  
This beast ; — all of those men whose names  
Are unrecorded in the Book  
Of Life, before the world was made,  
Shall wonder at this papal beast,  
Who was, and is not, and yet is !



9. And here is found the holy mind,  
With heavenly wisdom to discern,  
And rightly understand these words  
And figures true, as they apply  
To Rome's apostate, fallen church ; —  
The seven heads are seven hills,  
On which this lofty Harlot sits ;
10. And there are seven kings, or forms  
Of government, by which she has  
Been ruled ; five of the kings have fallen —  
One now is, the other yet to  
Come, and when he cometh he must  
Continue for a little time.
11. The beast, or government which was,  
And is not, even he shall be  
The eighth — brought back to life,— and so  
Is really of the seven,— and to  
Perdition he shall surely go !  
And so this scarlet-colored beast,  
Is Rome's oft-boasted temporal power,  
Which in the papal states of Italy,  
And in the papal kingdoms of  
The world shall rule, and one with old  
Imperial Rome, in every part  
Of her oppressive power on earth !
12. And these ten horns denote ten kings,  
Which have received no kingdom yet,  
But power as kings shall soon receive,  
For one short hour, or space of time,  
With th' papal church supporting, and

Controlling them ; and into forms  
More permanent, these kingdoms of  
The Northmen merge, and so will ten  
Abetting thrones, continue long  
To uphold the papal church on earth : —

13. And these, with one united mind  
Give their vast strength to papal Rome : —

14. These shall make war against the Lamb,  
And Christ, our Lord, shall conquer them,  
For He, Himself, is Lord of Lords,  
And King o'er every earthly king !

And those who follow Him are called,  
And true and faithful unto death.

15. The waters wide, which thou did'st see  
On which the papal whore doth sit,  
Are peoples, nations, climes and tongues ;

16. And those ten horns, or kingdoms ten,  
In time shall learn to hate the whore,  
Because of her pretentious claims,  
Professing that she reigns in temporal things,  
By right conferred of God, of old,  
O'er every government on earth !

Thus often striving with these kings,  
For supreme rule in every State,  
In time they come to hate her name,  
And strip her naked of such power,  
And burn her flesh with fire and war !

17. For God hath put it in their hearts  
To do His will, and give their strength,  
United, to the beast, until

His purposes shall be fulfilled.

18. And this proud woman which was seen

In rich apparel, and with gold

Bedecked, and yet a harlot, — is

None other than what Heaven now names

“A mighty city,” reigning o’er

The kings of earth, denoting that

Her beast-like fierceness is concealed ; —

And so a vile, corrupt, and yet

A mighty city well describes

Her power on earth, so vast and great, —

Which not alone in Rome exists,

But in great cities far and wide —

Throughout the world, her hand is felt

Upholding fraud and wickedness,

Wherever her base ends are served !

## CHAPTER XVIII.

COMPLETE DESTRUCTION OF ROME'S TEMPORAL  
POWER.

This chapter gives us a view of the present day in which papal pretensions are being widely revealed and also the final and complete destruction of Rome's temporal power. This final struggle has evidently commenced in the desperate effort which Rome is making by Jesuitical political plots, and by her parochial school crusade, to regain her temporal power among the nations of the earth; all of which plans, like the efforts of slaveholders to prop up the tottering system of slavery, will only hasten her destruction, and also the overthrow of those crowns and kingdoms which seek, by her help, to prolong their own oppressions.

1. 'Twas after these prophetic scenes  
I saw another Angel come from heaven —  
A messenger he came forth from  
The church with great authority, —  
And all the earth was lightened by  
His glory great, as when the light  
Dawns in the east, dispelling night,—  
    So gospel preaching wide reveals  
    The errors of the papal church —
2. Thus with a strong and mighty voice  
He cried : " Great Babylon is fallen,  
And has become, for demons fierce,  
The hold and habitation ; and  
A cage of unclean, hateful birds,—

A home for ev'ry spirit foul!

3. All nations drank her wine of wrath,  
Caused by her fornications vile  
By which she turned away their hearts  
From serving God — the living God!  
E'en Kings she caused to drink her wines  
And converse have with her instead  
Of God, and merchants of great wealth  
Grew rich by yielding to her sway.  
Thus did the Reformation's light  
Reveal the horrid state of Rome;—

And thus, since then, by gospel light,  
The "Man of sin" has been revealed  
And shown to be the papal church.

4. Another voice from heaven I heard :—  
"Come out of her, my people true,—  
Be not partakers of her sins,  
Nor share those final, fatal plagues  
Which shortly shall her portion be—

5. For Rome's great sins to heaven have  
reached,

And her iniquities doth God  
Remember well and will avenge,—

6. Reward her even as she has  
Rewarded you — yea, double shall  
She soon receive, in justice, from  
Your hand, according to her works!  
The cup which she so long has pressed  
To your own lips now turn to her,  
And double measure of God's wrath —

So long delayed — compel her now

7. To drink. As she hath glorified  
Herself and lived in pride and sin,  
So much torment and judgment give  
To her, for in her heart she saith :

“ I sit a Queen and do my will ;  
I am no widow sad and poor —  
No sorrow shall I ever see ! ”

8. Therefore her plagues shall surely fall  
With fatal vengeance, in one day, —  
Famine, mourning, death, in one  
Short space of time shall come to her ;

And utterly shall she be burned  
With flames of scorn, hatred, and war,  
For strong is God who judgeth her !

9. And all those servile Kings who have  
Lived delicately with her, as  
She supported their frail power,  
Shall loud lament her fall ; — and yet  
There was a little time these Kings  
In hatred turned from her embrace,  
And burned her harlot flesh with flames  
Of scorn and fiery war, for so  
Had she provoked them by her claims  
To rule all Kings and Kingdoms at  
Her will, and had so stubbornly opposed  
All liberty of thought and speech,  
The people rushed to arms and fought  
Against the papal church ; and yet,  
As time goes on, these selfsame Kings

Cry that they must have help from Rome  
Or lose their crowns, and so again  
They seek her aid and wear her chains!

At last when ruin comes to her,  
And liberty throughout the world  
Is near, they tremble and bewail  
Their loss and the impending doom  
Of all oppressive Kings and powers,—

10. And standing far away from her  
Great torment, lest they share her fate,  
They mourn and weep their mutual loss,  
And say : “ Alas ! Great Babylon !  
Thou mighty city, for in one  
Short hour thy judgment dire has come ! ”

11. Her wealthy merchants, too, shall mourn,  
Because no man will traffic more  
With those who are the friends of Rome :

12. Her world-wide merchandise she gave  
To them, of gold and silver, precious  
Stones and linen, silk and woods, and  
Brass and iron, ivory and  
Marble rare, and precious ointments,

13. And frankincense and cinnamon,  
And wheat, oil, wine, and chariots  
And horses grand, and souls as well  
As bodies of those slaves in which

14. They trafficked long ; and all the fruits  
So luscious to one’s taste are gone,  
Departed far from thee and all  
Things rich and rare, and nevermore

Shall riches come to thee again !

15. The merchants of these many things,  
Who were made rich by Rome, in fear  
Shall stand afar and weep and wail,

16. And say : " Alas ! that city great,  
In finest linen clothed, bedecked  
In royal scarlet, purple, gold and pearls,  
17. And precious stones, — for in one hour  
Riches so great have come to naught ! "

And all who traffic on the seas  
Stood far away, as they beheld  
The smoking, burning city, doomed ; —

18. And cried, " What city on the earth  
Is like unto this city great ! "

19. And dust on their sad heads they cast,  
And loudly wept and wailed, and cried :

" Alas, alas ! that city grand,  
Wherein, because of her vast wealth  
And wants, all who had ships grew rich, —  
In one short hour made desolate ! "

20 *Rejoice o'er her, ye heavens above,  
Apostles, prophets, praise your God,  
For you hath He avenged on her !*

21. A mighty Angel took a stone,  
Like a great millstone, in his hand  
And cast it in the sea, and said :

" Thus suddenly, with violence,  
Shall be the fall of Babylon,  
And no more known while time endures !

22. The voice of music ne'er again



Shall fill thy soul with joy ; no man  
Of any skill or craft shall dwell  
In thee ; the grinding of the mill  
23. Shall cease, and darkness reign instead  
Of light ! The happy voice of bride  
And bridegroom ne'er again shall fill  
Thy halls with joy, for thy great men,  
And merchants then shall be too poor  
To furnish wedding feasts with rich  
And costly things which please the ear  
And eye and taste ; thy sorceries,  
By which the nations were deceived,  
Through which thy coffers were enriched,  
Have been exposed forevermore ! ”  
24. And in her filthy skirts were found  
The blood of prophets, saints, and all  
The righteous, martyred, dead of earth,  
Who gladly shed their precious blood,  
For Christ and His eternal truth.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### THE MARRIAGE SUPPER AND FINAL VICTORY OF CHRIST.

This chapter delays the final catastrophe in order to give us a still further and detailed account of the closing conflict with the great anti-Christian powers of this world. The picture of Christ and His faithful army with their weapons of truth and justice, is full of sublimity and encouragement.

No earthly poet or painter has ever equaled these word-pictures in grandeur and beauty.

1. The voices, now, of all in heaven,  
And saints on earth, heard I, with one  
United voice : " Salvation, power,  
And glory be unto our God ;—
2. For true and righteous are Thy ways,  
And all Thy judgments, mighty God,  
In judging thus the papal whore,  
Who, with her fornications vile,  
Corrupted earth, but now her end  
Has come, and God hath sore avenged  
The blood of all His servants on  
Her proud, her vile and guilty head.  
Then Alleluias, loud, again  
From God's victorious hosts arose ;  
While smoke, like that on Sodom's plains,  
Proclaimed the ruin of their foes,

From fire no power in earth or hell  
Can quench, till Rome shall be no more !

4. Again those men who represent  
The church in Heaven, and also those  
Four, mighty, living beings, who  
Defend the civil rights of men —  
Those governments which stand for God  
And liberty — all joined in praise  
Of God, and His just judgments on  
The church of Rome, and loudly cried,  
“Amen!” with hallelujahs long !

5. And then I heard another voice,  
With Heaven’s authority proclaim :  
“Let all the servants of our God,  
Both small and great, both far and wide,  
Praise Him with one united heart !”

6. ’Twas then I heard the voices of  
A multitude, as of the sound  
Of oceans’ roar, and thunders loud,  
With hallelujahs to our God,  
“The Lord, Omnipotent, doth reign !”

7. They sing, “Let us rejoice, and praise,  
And honor Him who reigns on earth,  
For lo ! the marriage of the Lamb has come,  
And His own spouse hath ready made  
Herself ; long hath she waited for  
This day, when earth should be her home,  
And resting-place, with her dear Lord !”

8. And unto her ’twas given to be  
Arrayed in linen pure and white,

For this same linen represents  
The righteousness which Christ hath  
wrought

By His obedience, and His death,  
And freely gives to all His saints,—  
Yea all who ask this priceless boon.

9. To me the voice then sweetly cried :  
“Write! Blessed are the called unto  
The Marriage Supper of the Lamb,—  
These are the faithful words of God.”

10. Down low before his feet I fell,  
To worship this, high, kingly one,—  
“See that thou do it not!” he cried,  
“Nor worship any saint, in heaven or earth,  
For I, thy fellow-servant am,  
And one of thine own brethren,  
Who keep the testimony of  
Our Lord, and witness to the truth ;—  
The spirit and intent of all  
True prophecy is that our Lord  
May be exalted, loved, and served—  
And this the work of all His saints  
Must be, till Rome shall cease to reign.”

11. And now our Lord and Master takes  
Unto Himself, His own great power  
To make a full and final end of Rome!  
I saw the heavens opened wide ;—  
The church of Christ puts on new strength  
In prayer, and speech, and warnings loud :—  
Lo! on a horse of purest white—

A symbol of swift victory —  
Was seated Christ, our Lord and King,  
Faithful and true in righteousness,  
12. He judges and makes war ; His eyes,  
Like flaming fire, omniscient are,  
And on His head were many crowns ; —  
The King of pardon, peace, and joy,  
Is He, and rules o'er every realm  
Of thought, of duty, and of power !  
And written on His diadem  
Was seen a wondrous name, no one  
Can fully know, or understand ; —  
The Logos, " Word of God " is He,  
And yet, the depth of meaning to  
This name, e'en angels fain would know,  
As they behold Immanuel !  
13. And with a vesture dipped in blood,  
He was arrayed, which thus proclaimed,  
That He was Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
And justly called the Word of God.  
14. The heavenly army followed Him,  
Made up of loyal men and true,  
On horses white — a nation's power —  
And they were clothed in linen fine,  
15. And clean, and white. And from Christ's  
mouth  
A sharp-edged sword went forth to smite  
The nations, and subdue them, by  
His truth, as thro' His church proclaimed.  
And thus He rules them with a rod,

As firm, and strong, as iron is,  
And by the preaching of the word,  
And by the power of righteous laws,  
He treads in God's wine-press of wrath,  
All forms of superstition and

16. Of vice ; And on His vesture and  
His thigh a name is written — “ King  
Of Kings, and mighty Lord of Lords.”

17. And in the Sun, the seat of power  
And government, an Angel stood,  
And called to all the hosts in heaven :

18. “ Together come, and ye shall eat  
At God's great feast, the flesh of Kings,  
Of mighty men, and captains bold,  
And all the men and horses, which  
Against the Lord, and His dear church

19. Were gathered fierce ! ” The papal beast,  
The kings of earth, with armies great,  
Combined in war against our Lord  
And His brave army grand and true :—

20. And now this boastful papal “ beast ”  
And that false prophet, who had wrought  
Such, seeming, miracles before  
The beast, deceiving all the earth, —  
These both alive were cast into  
The lake of fire, — a flame hotter  
Than mingled fire and brimstone are ;  
A true and fearful symbol, this,  
Of those fierce flames of scorn and wrath,  
From all the world, which deeper burn

Than lakes of literal fire and flame !  
21. A remnant of these enemies,  
Were slain by Christ's sharp sword of truth, —  
By yielding to its force and power,  
And thus becoming friends of God,  
And filling all the church with joy !

## CHAPTER XX.

## THE MILLENNIUM.

In this chapter we have the prophetic description of the binding of Satan for a thousand years, after which he will, for a little while, threaten and disturb the church, when he will be completely and forever defeated!

In this and the remaining chapters, the writer has pointed out the first and primal as well as the secondary and final fulfillment of these beautiful and faithful predictions. As the prophecies of Christ, concerning the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the world, are by Him purposely mingled and somewhat hard to separate and understand—for all those predictions really received a primal fulfillment at the destruction of Jerusalem, and yet all were gathered up and made to symbolize and predict the end of the world—so, as a certain writer has declared, the whole book of Revelation will evidently receive a primal fulfillment in the history of the church in this world and then, especially as described in the three closing chapters, all is gathered up and made to find its ultimate fulfillment in heaven and hell.

I have also, with most commentators, interpreted the two resurrections as referring, first, to the resurrection of the spirit of apostolical and primitive zeal, during the thousand years;—as Elijah spiritually came forth from his grave, and lived and preached again through John the Baptist; so the “souls”, not the bodies, of the early disciples live and reign with Christ on earth during the Millennium in the sanctified lives of the saints who make their places good during that long, peaceful and triumphant period. In support of these views, see Andrew Fuller on the Apocalypse, and Barnes’ notes on this chapter, and also many others. Christ also plainly spoke of two resurrections, one spiritual and the other literal. (See John 5:24-29.)

It is an implied reflection on the power and honor of the Holy Spirit to affirm that His glorious dispensation is about to close, when we are only at the beginning of His triumphant, world-wide, reign on earth!



And now, as Satan's synagogue  
And city, where his throne was found,  
Are fallen, fallen forevermore !—  
The work to conquer him becomes  
An easy task — the nations of the earth  
No more can be deceived by him,  
Until the thousand years are fled !

1. I, therefore, saw an Angel strong,  
By Christ and his own church sent forth,  
And in his hand he held a chain,—  
The mighty chain of truth, and by  
His side there hung the key to hell,  
By which he opened wide, in sight  
Of all the world, the guilt and fruits  
Of sin, — and seized the Wicked one, —  
Oft called the "Dragon," "Satan," and  
The "Devil" — arch-deceiver of  
All men, e'er since the world was made ;—  
And for one thousand years he bound  
Him, by the force of God's own truth,  
And cast him, headlong, down to hell !

His words and works of darkness with  
3. Him too were cast into the pit,  
Called "bottomless", where he must lie ;—  
And set a seal upon him there,  
That he should ne'er deceive, again,  
The nations of the earth, until  
The thousand years shall be fulfilled ;—  
And after that, a little time,  
4. He must be loosed again.

Then thrones

I saw, and unto God's own saints  
Judgment was given o'er all the world,—  
The governments of earth were given  
To men of probity and truth :—

I also saw the souls of those  
Who had been slain for Jesus and  
The precious word of God — men who  
Refused to worship pope or church,  
And who refused to wear their marks  
Of ownership and slavery —

These noble martyrs lived and reigned  
With Christ, a thousand years — And yet  
Their bodies lived not, but their "souls"; —

In spirit, as Elijah lived

In gospel times, so these again

Lived on the earth in those who like

Them fully followed Christ and truth !

5. The other dead, who only lived

To serve the dragon and his church,

Lived not again to persecute

Till that long period had passed —

The thousand years of truth and peace.

This truly then is called the first

Grand resurrection unto life,—

A glorious emblem and a type

Of that great day when all shall rise,

The good and evil, from their graves ;

When saints shall shine in splendor like

The sun, in robes of righteousness,

- Of purity and love and power !
6. Thus blest and holy shall he be  
Who shares a glorious part in this  
First resurrection, for on such,  
The second death, the endless death,  
Of woe, shall have no power, but kings  
And priests to God, and Christ, they reign  
With him a thousand blissful years !
7. But when the thousand years expire,  
From out of his dark prison-house
8. The Devil must be loosed and shall  
Go forth, once more, to stir up strife,  
And so fill up his final cup  
Of endless woe ! All thro' the world  
He roams, to gather whom he may, —  
Deceiving and beguiling men,  
He rallies vile and vicious souls,  
To make one final charge upon  
The church of Christ : — “Gog and Magog,”  
The names of this ungodly host ; —  
Once more and only once, the church  
Of Christ shall be assailed by men  
Who hate our God and His pure word —  
From ev'ry quarter of the globe,  
Like sand upon the seashore vast,  
These enemies swarm forth to fight  
Against our Lord and His dear church :
9. And they went up and compassed quick  
The camp of God's elect, the fair  
Beloved city of our God, —

- When swift, from Heaven, the flames of wrath  
 In vengeance fell upon their heads  
 And, like a furnace blast, devoured  
 10. Them all! And Satan, that arch-fiend,  
 Who had deceived them, he was cast  
 Deep in the lake of fire and scorn  
 Where papal beast and prophet false  
 Had long ago been cast; and day  
 And night, forevermore, he shall  
 Tormented be with flames, fanned by  
 The condemnation of all worlds!
11. A great white throne I next beheld,  
 And from the face of Him who sat  
 Thereon the heavens and earth did flee,  
 And no more place was found for them,—  
     No longer dared proud, sinful men  
     To raise their voices in contempt  
     Of God and His own church so fair!
12. I also saw the dead, both small  
 And great, appear before their God  
 To give account for all their deeds.  
     The books of God wide-opened were;—  
     The Book of Nature, with its leaves  
     So full of God and all his ways;—  
     The Book of Conscience—which all men  
     E'en heathen, till past feeling, read—  
     Was there, and also that great book  
     In which God's thoughts toward His own  
         church  
 Are written plain, was opened wide,

As well as that more private book,  
Men's memories, in which God makes  
Each one his own accountant prove; —  
God's many-leaved Book of Providence  
Was opened and its records scanned,  
In praise or blame of all who lived :  
Another book — the best of all —  
Was there and opened wide — The Lamb's  
Own Book of Life, inscribed with blood —  
In which the names of all who have  
Believed in Christ are written plain,  
Engraved by His own hand, from which  
They never shall be blotted out !  
And by these books all men were judged,  
According as their works had been.  
13. And the sea gave up her treasured dead,  
The many millions buried there  
Appeared before the throne of God ;  
And death and hades, place of all  
Departed spirits, gave up all  
Their dead, of every age and clime,  
And they were judged according to  
14. Their faith and works, each one ; And  
death  
And the grave which long had claimed  
Their victims on account of sin,  
Were cast into the lake of fire, —  
No more should death reign over men,  
No more the grave receive their dust !  
These evils thus personified,

Are past and gone forevermore !  
 This is the second and the final death —  
 The burning lake of quenchless fire,  
 In which God's enemies must die !  
 15. And whosoever was not found  
 With name inscribed in Christ's own Book  
 Was cast into the lake of fire !  
 Such are God's judgments which must fall  
 On "Gog and Magog" — Satan's host,  
 Which in the latter days he brings  
 Against restored Israel !

Long after their conversion to  
 The truth and to the Christ of God  
 Shall these bold enemies attack  
 Them in their own, their peaceful land;  
 Then "fire from heaven" shall fall on them;  
 And all the judgments and the woes  
 Predicted in these words so true,  
 Shall be fulfilled in their defeat; —  
 As when old pagan Rome was by  
 The vengeance of our God destroyed,  
 When black as sackcloth grew the sun,  
 And moon became a crimson red,  
 And stars fell darkling to the earth,  
 When the heavens departed and the Kings  
 And mighty men of earth cried,  
 "Ye mountains fall and hide us from  
 The face of God and from the Lamb,  
 The day of wrath has come and who  
 Can stand the awful test?"

So shall  
Fierce Gog and Magog feel the fire  
And judgments, just, of God, which fall  
On them and evermore destroy  
Their hellish power upon the earth !

Then as that prophet of the Lord,  
Ezekiel, hath long foretold  
Shall come to pass that other grand  
And rich display of God's great love  
Toward all his ancient people, and  
Toward all the sons of Abraham,  
(Who thus become by living faith,)  
And they the New Jerusalem  
Shall see descending out of heaven  
To dwell among the sons of men ; —  
Then all the nations of the world  
Shall serve our God and His dear Son !

## CHAPTER XXI.

THE TABERNACLE OF GOD ON EARTH—A PICTURE  
AND PLEDGE OF HEAVEN.

Here we have a predictive picture and emblem of the regenerated heavens and earth, following the destruction of the anti-Christian powers, both as first fulfilled after the destruction of Gog and Magog, and finally, in the new heavens and earth of the future state of existence.

In this chapter we read, "Behold the Tabernacle of God is *with men.*" Also "He showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, *descending out of heaven from God,*" and again "They shall bring the glory and honor of the *nations* into it."

These inspired predictions convince the writer that there will be a *primary* fulfillment of them on earth, as well as a *final* fulfillment of them in heaven;—precisely as the prophecies uttered by Christ concerning the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the world were all fulfilled in that generation and yet are to receive another and final accomplishment at the end of the world, so these predictions have a primal and secondary significance.

It will be remembered that in the VI. c. of Revelation the imagery there used to denote the destruction of pagan Rome is almost as vivid and apparently indicative of the end of the world, as the figures used in this and the preceding chapter.

It also seems evident that in the closing part of the prophecy of Ezekiel from the Thirty-eighth Chapter to the end of that wonderful book, where the prophet describes in detail the battle of Gog and Magog,—the river of life,—the spiritual temple and regenerated land,—he refers, if not primarily, yet in a secondary sense, to the same events to which John points in this and the following chapter.

As the gentiles are about to enjoy their millennial triumph, so, God's especially loved people, the Jews, shall have theirs, after they gain the final victory over all the foes of the church on earth. And yet all the children of Abraham "by faith",



who are living then, will, of course, be joint heirs with them to the same inheritance. As regards the "end of the world", it is quite probable that this great event will come when the internal fires of the earth burst forth, causing the very "elements to melt with fervent heat",— then like the moon, without sea or air, it cannot be inhabited by men in their present condition.

1. Lo! a new Heavens and Earth I saw,  
As if the old had passed away,—  
As though the last great day had come,  
And Earth's internal fires had done  
Their cleansing work, the elements  
With fervent heat had melted and  
The ethereal atmosphere  
No longer needed, had given  
Place to purer natural heavens; —  
And oceans' vast expanse, also,  
Had passed away, and thus this world  
Made ready for the Saints as one  
Of "many mansions" which our Lord  
Has promised to prepare for all  
Who love and serve Him here below.
2. And I, God's servant, John, beheld  
The holy city of our Lord,  
The New Jerusalem, from God,  
Descending down from heaven, prepared  
As bride adorned for husband true,—  
To dwell on earth among the sons  
Of men, for many peaceful days.
3. Then from the heavens I heard a voice,  
A clear, loud voice, in tones of joy:  
"Behold the tabernacle of

The Lord is now with men and He  
 Will dwell with them and they shall  
 Be his loving people evermore ; —  
 Thus shall Christ's church, made pure by grace,  
 Extend all o'er the whole wide world !  
 Yea, God himself shall be with them  
 And be their ever-present Lord ;

4. And from their eyes all tears He'll wipe,  
 And death shall be no more — for list, —  
 " He that believeth ne'er shall die,"  
 Saith Christ, — and in that happy day  
 The fear of death shall be unknown,  
 For all the former things are passed away.

5. And He who sat upon the throne  
 I heard declare, " Behold, I make  
 All things, in spirit, new ! " To me  
 He said : " Write ; for these sayings true  
 And faithful are as God's own word ! "

6. Again to me He spake : " 'Tis done ;  
 The Alpha and Omega I,  
 Beginning and the ending of  
 All things, in heaven or earth ; — and I  
 Will give to him who is athirst  
 The water of life from heaven's fount —  
 Most freely will I give to all :

7. He who o'ercometh shall all things  
 Inherit and his God I'll be,  
 And he shall be my loyal son ;

8. But timid souls, so cowardly  
 That they can never own their Lord, —

The unbelieving and the vile,  
Whoremongers and idolaters,  
And sorcerers and murderers,  
And all who love and make a lie,  
Their part shall have in that great lake  
Which burns with fire and brimstone fierce."

9. One of those Angels seven, which  
On Rome poured out God's final woe,  
Talked with me: "Hither come, and I  
Will show to thee, the Lamb's own bride,  
And spouse, who hath his wife become."
10. In th' Spirit and in vision clear  
The Angel bore me swift to a  
Great mountain grand and tall,—which showed  
The high commanding place of power  
The church will occupy on earth  
In her triumphant days, when  
Truth shall reign o'er every land!—  
And on this mountain high and grand  
He showed me that great city of  
Our Lord, the New Jerusalem,  
Descending out of heaven from God,  
With all the Spirit's power and Grace,  
To bless believing souls throughout the world;
11. The glory of our God had she,  
And her pure light was like a stone  
Most precious, like a jasper stone,  
And crystal clear—its flashing rays  
Went forth the earth to bless and save:
12. And this great city (as in days

Of old) had walls both broad and high ;—  
 It also had twelve gates, and at  
 Each gate an Angel stood to guard  
 These entrances from wicked men ;  
     And on these gates twelve names were seen,  
     The names of God's own chosen ones,  
     That all might know the Saints now reigned,  
     As wicked men once ruled the earth.

13. Three gates were placed on each side of  
 This city, thus believing souls  
 Find easy ingress to its joys.

14. Foundations twelve the city had,  
 And on them were the names of Christ's  
 Apostles, who of God were made  
 Foundation stones on which the church

15. Was reared.

                    A golden reed was in  
 The Angel's hand to measure this  
 Great city of our Lord. The gates  
 And walls thereof he measured true : —

16. Four-square this city lies, the length  
 Is as the breadth, three hundred miles  
 And seventy-five in length and breadth ;  
 The length, the breadth and height are all  
 The same, denoting harmony  
 In all its doctrines, duties, deeds ; —  
 Permitting no imperfect creed  
 Or practice to destroy its strength,  
 Or mar its beauty, grand and rare !

    This symbol shows the magnitude

Of that great number, none can count,  
Who are redeemed from sin and guilt.

17. The wall, in height, he measured as  
A man would measure it, and not  
By some unknown and mystic reed—  
And found the measurement to be,  
In feet, two hundred and sixteen,  
As measured by the angel true ;—

In this we see that while the walls  
Were high and grand, protecting all  
Within, yet high above them towered  
The church, in all its grandeur and

18. Its strength! The wall above its base,  
Which was of precious stones, was built  
Of jasper, beautiful and strong,  
A wall no foe can scale, no power  
Can overthrow! The city was

Of purest gold, as clear as glass,—  
Like glass when the bright and ling'ring sun  
His parting rays transforms to gold  
And flashes forth his brilliant light.

19. And richly garnished were its strong  
Foundations with most precious stones,—  
The first with Jasper— Sapphire next,  
Then Chalcedony, Emerald green,

20. Then Sardonyx and Sardius  
And Chrysolite, Beryl, Topaz rare,  
Then Crysopterus, Jacinth, fair,—  
An Amethyst adorned the twelfth  
Foundation stone,— each with its own

Peculiar beauty and its worth; —

Thus shall the lives, the words and deeds  
Of Christ's Apostles, and their true  
Successors in the Ministry,  
Shine on while truth itself shall last !

21. The twelve gates of the City were  
Each one, a solid pearl, to show  
The solid worth, the truth and grace,  
Of which these entrances consist ; —

All men shall know and own that God  
Was wise, and just and merciful  
In all the methods of his grace ;  
Debarring none from heaven who should  
In truth, His pardoning love accept ; —

*And yet thro' which no soul could pass*

*Unless redeemed from guilt and sin !*

And thro' these solid gates of truth  
And justice none can go to vex  
Or harm the holy Church of Christ !

22. No temple in this city did  
I see, for God and His Dear Son  
So near the saints did dwell,  
They had no need of churchly rules  
And varied laws to keep them true ; —

23. No need of sun or moon had they, —  
Their loving, loyal hearts scarce called  
For Kings or governments, for each  
Was governed by God's light and love,  
As shown by Christ while here on earth.

24. And all the nations of the saved

Shall also walk in this same light,  
And base their laws on God's own word;  
And thus the rulers of the earth  
Shall bring their glory, honor, strength,  
To Jesus and His faithful Church.

25. This City's gates shall ne'er be closed,  
By day or night, for no night there  
Is known, and all who worthy are,  
Free ingress and egress shall find,  
While fields of knowledge, and of joy  
They wander o'er, both far and wide.

26. And all the nations of the earth  
Shall haste to bring their glory there,  
In this bright, golden age of truth : —

27. And yet in nowise shall the vile,  
Or those who make a lie, or those  
Who work abominations, stand  
Within its sacred walls, only  
Those happy souls whose names are found  
In Christ the Lamb's own Book of Life.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### THE RIVER OF LIFE—GOSPEL RESULTS HERE AND HEREAFTER.

This sweet chapter brings us to the end of these wonderful and truthful prophecies. The fruit-bearing trees whose leaves have a healing virtue, going on their sacred mission of moral healing and salvation to all nations, give proof that there is a primary reference to post-millennial results of gospel preaching on earth; and then most of these predictions are doubtless presented to us as an impressive and faithful picture of heaven and hell in the world to come.

1. To my enraptured gaze he showed  
The river and water of life:—

As pure and clear as crystal, was  
This holy, living, gospel stream,—  
Proceeding from the love of God  
And from the merits of the Lamb.

2. And in the streets, on either side  
This river, grew the trees of life,—  
Not as in Eden where but one  
Such tree was found, and even that  
Debarred from man because of sin,  
For in this city grew in rich  
Profusion many trees of grace



With free access to all, by all.  
Twelve precious fruit-harvests each year  
These trees did yield, and every month  
Was gathered ripe and perfect fruit!  
The leaves from these same trees possessed  
A healing power, and were for souls,  
In every nation, who desire  
Abundant life, forevermore.  
Had Adam sought this precious fruit,  
Instead of seeking knowledge of  
The fruits of sin, he ne'er had died!

But now, for Jesus' sake, all men  
May freely eat of this same tree,  
And so secure immortal life;—

3. Therefore no curse can ever come  
To mar the joys of heaven's elect!

Before the throne of God, and of the  
The Lamb, which ever shall be there,  
His subjects bow and serve their Lord;

4. And they shall ever see His face,  
And bask in His approving smiles;  
While on their foreheads, plainly seen,  
His wondrous name shall written be,—  
For they confess with joy their Lord!

5. And there shall be no night within  
Those walls, and thus they need no lamp,  
Or sun, to give them light and guide  
Their feet, for God shall be their light:  
All ignorance and doubt shall flee;—  
Like shades of darkness when the light

Of day breaks in the east,— so shall  
God's people know as they by Him  
Are known in that pure land of light,  
Where evermore His saints shall reign.

6. "These sayings faithful are and true,"  
He cried ;— "The Lord and God of all  
The holy prophets me hath sent  
To show his faithful servants things  
Which shortly must begin to be

7. Fulfilled : Behold ! I quickly come,  
And blest is he who keeps these words  
Within his mind and heart which are

8. Recorded in this book." I, John,  
Both saw and heard these wondrous things :—  
So filled was I with rapturous joy,  
Before God's holy messenger —  
Who had thus sweetly, fully taught  
These mysteries of heaven,— I sought

9. To worship him. "See that thou do  
It not," he cried, "I only am

Thy fellow-servant and those, of  
Thine own loved brethren, who do keep  
The sayings of this blessed book, —  
Although so clothed with light and power,  
No one can worshiped be but God ;—

To Him alone, all praise is due :

10. Seal not these holy prophecies ;—  
The time when their fulfillment must  
Begin, is now at hand,— as soon  
As these true sayings written are,

They shall be proven true, by what  
My Church shall know, and see, and feel,  
At once from friends and foes of truth ; —  
And so along the ages shall  
This book a beacon-light of hope  
And warning be, till all these words,  
To every jot and tittle, shall  
Fulfillment find ; and thus, before  
And after these events, my saints,  
By these true words, shall be sustained,  
And comforted and faithful made : —

11. Then, when the end has come, and all  
These warnings past, the unjust soul  
Will be unjust forevermore ; —  
The filthy will be filthy still, —  
The righteous will be righteous still, —  
The holy, holy evermore !

E'en while these awful judgments are  
In process of fulfillment, such  
Results will follow in their train ; —  
The righteous will be righteous made,  
While wicked men shall viler grow ; —

So let it be, God's ways are just,  
And true and gracious evermore !

12. Behold ! I quickly come and My  
Reward is with Me to bestow  
On every man according as  
His faith and works shall truly be.

13. I, Alpha and Omega am,  
Beginning, ending of all things,

The first and last great cause am I !

14. Blessed are they who do His will,  
That they may be entitled, by  
This proof of faith in Christ, to all  
The fruitage of their faith, which  
Pendant hangs upon the tree of life ;  
And also enter thro' these gates  
Of pearl, to heaven's fair land of rest,  
Of peace, of joy, and perfect love !

15. Without the walls of my pure church  
Are human dogs, both fierce and base,—  
And Sorcerers who make foul lies,—  
Vile whoremongers who find no rest  
Unless some soul they can seduce,—  
Idolaters, and liars, who,  
Both make, and love, malicious lies ; —  
All these justly remain outside  
Of Zion, purified by faith,  
By God's own Spirit, through the long  
And blessed reign of truth on earth,—  
As well as when in heaven she reigns  
In perfect light and purity.

16. " Your Lord and Saviour, Jesus, I  
My messenger have truly sent,  
To prophesy to all My saints  
These words which shall fulfillment find.

Of David's root and offspring true,  
Am I,—and the bright and morning star,  
Which heralds heaven's eternal day ! "

17. Because of all these faithful words

God's Spirit and the Church say, "Come!"

Let him who heareth also say

To all about him, "Come!" let him

Who is athirst for pardon come,

And whosoever will, yea, let

Him quickly come and freely take

Life's water from the open fount

Of God's redeeming grace and love!

18. I testify to every man

Who hears these words of prophesy,

If any one dare add to these

Pure words, in wilful malice toward

The truth, the plagues recorded here

Will God add to his cup of woe,

For hiding light, God made to shine,

To warn, and bless; and save the world.

19. If any man shall take from these

Blest words of truth their healing power,

By sowing fatal errors in

Their place, his part and portion God

Will take from out the Book of Life,

And from the holy city, and

From all the blessings in this book

Which God has promised to His saints.

20. The one who testifieth to

These faithful words declares, — "Surely

I quickly come to cause these words

Fulfillment faithfully to find;

Yea, soon I come to judge the world!"

Amen! e'en so, Lord Jesus, come!

---

21. These heaven-sent words are ended, and  
I, John, implore that God's rich grace  
And love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
May ever with you dwell,—Amen!



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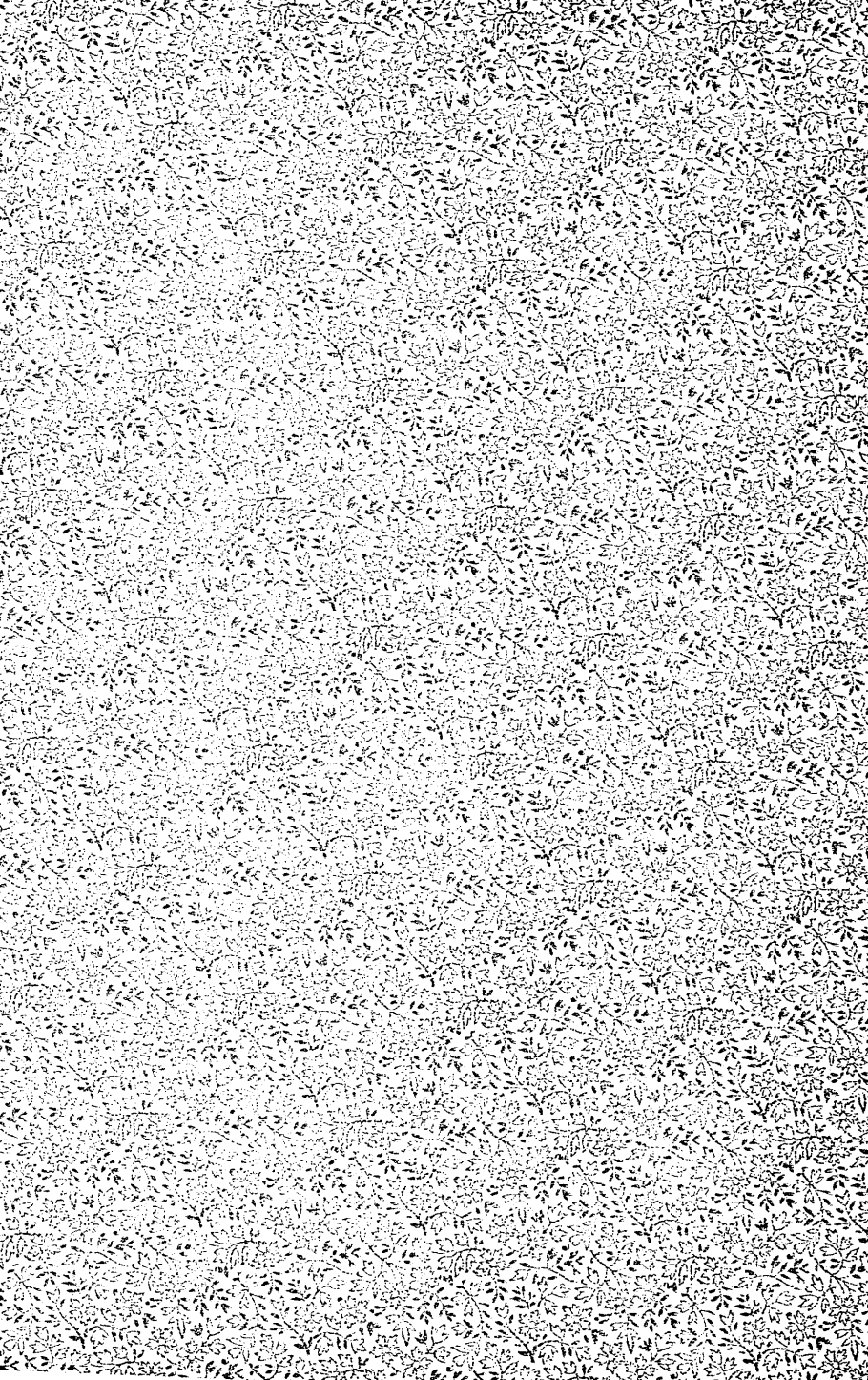
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